

Union Calendar No. 313

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4366

[Report No. 113–424]

To strengthen the Federal education research system to make research and evaluations more timely and relevant to State and local needs in order to increase student achievement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2014

Mr. ROKITA (for himself, Mr. KLINE, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

APRIL 29, 2014

Additional sponsors: Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. MESSER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina

APRIL 29, 2014

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 2, 2014]

A BILL

To strengthen the Federal education research system to make research and evaluations more timely and relevant to State and local needs in order to increase student achievement.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Edu-*
 5 *cation through Research Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

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Sec. 2. Table of contents.

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1 ***TITLE I—EDUCATION SCIENCES***
2 ***REFORM***

3 ***SEC. 101. REFERENCES.***

4 *Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in*
5 *this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of*
6 *an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision,*
7 *the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or*

1 *other provision of the Education Sciences Reform Act of*
2 *2002 (20 U.S.C. 9501 et seq.).*

3 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

4 *Section 102 (20 U.S.C. 9501) is amended—*

5 *(1) in paragraph (5), by striking “Affairs” and*
6 *inserting “Education”;*

7 *(2) in paragraph (10)—*

8 *(A) by inserting “or other information, in*
9 *a timely manner and” after “evaluations,” and*

10 *(B) by inserting “school leaders,” after*
11 *“teachers,”;*

12 *(3) in paragraph (12), by inserting “, school*
13 *leaders,” after “teachers”;*

14 *(4) by striking paragraph (13);*

15 *(5) by redesignating paragraphs (14) and (15)*
16 *as paragraphs (13) and (14), respectively;*

17 *(6) by inserting after paragraph (14), as so re-*
18 *designated, the following:*

19 *“(15) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The*
20 *term ‘minority-serving institution’ means an institu-*
21 *tion of higher education described in section 371(a) of*
22 *the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.*
23 *1067q(a)).”;*

24 *(7) by amending paragraph (18) to read as fol-*
25 *lows:*

1 “(18) *PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.*—

2 *The term ‘principles of scientific research’ means*
3 *principles of research that—*

4 “(A) *apply rigorous, systematic, and objec-*
5 *tive methodology to obtain reliable and valid*
6 *knowledge relevant to education activities and*
7 *programs;*

8 “(B) *present findings and make claims that*
9 *are appropriate to, and supported by, the meth-*
10 *ods that have been employed; and*

11 “(C) *include, appropriate to the research*
12 *being conducted—*

13 “(i) *use of systematic, empirical meth-*
14 *ods that draw on observation or experiment;*

15 “(ii) *use of data analyses that are ade-*
16 *quate to support the general findings;*

17 “(iii) *reliance on measurements or ob-*
18 *servational methods that provide reliable*
19 *and generalizable findings;*

20 “(iv) *strong claims of causal relation-*
21 *ships, only with research designs that elimi-*
22 *nate plausible competing explanations for*
23 *observed results, such as, but not limited to,*
24 *random-assignment experiments;*

1 “(v) presentation of studies and meth-
 2 ods in sufficient detail and clarity to allow
 3 for replication or, at a minimum, to offer
 4 the opportunity to build systematically on
 5 the findings of the research;

6 “(vi) acceptance by a peer-reviewed
 7 journal or critique by a panel of inde-
 8 pendent experts through a comparably rig-
 9 orous, objective, and scientific review; and

10 “(vii) consistency of findings across
 11 multiple studies or sites to support the gen-
 12 erality of results and conclusions.”;

13 (8) in paragraph (20), by striking “scientifically
 14 based research standards” and inserting “the prin-
 15 ciples of scientific research”; and

16 (9) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(24) SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘school lead-
 18 er’ means a principal, assistant principal, or other
 19 individual who is—

20 “(A) an employee or officer of—

21 “(i) an elementary school or secondary
 22 school;

23 “(ii) a local educational agency serv-
 24 ing an elementary school or secondary
 25 school; or

1 “(iii) another entity operating the ele-
 2 mentary school or secondary school; and
 3 “(B) responsible for the daily instructional
 4 leadership and managerial operations of the ele-
 5 mentary school or secondary school.”.

6 **PART A—THE INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION**
 7 **SCIENCES**

8 **SEC. 111. ESTABLISHMENT.**

9 Section 111 (20 U.S.C. 9511) is amended—
 10 (1) in subsection (b)(2)—
 11 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
 12 (A)—
 13 (i) by striking “and wide dissemina-
 14 tion activities” and inserting “and, con-
 15 sistent with section 114(j), wide dissemina-
 16 tion and utilization activities” and
 17 (ii) by striking “(including in tech-
 18 nology areas)”; and
 19 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “dis-
 20 ability,” after “gender,”.

21 **SEC. 112. FUNCTIONS.**

22 Section 112 (20 U.S.C. 9512) is amended—
 23 (1) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) by inserting “(including evaluations of
2 impact and implementation)” after “education
3 evaluation”; and

4 (B) by inserting before the semicolon the fol-
5 lowing “and utilization”; and

6 (2) in paragraph (2)—

7 (A) by inserting “, consistent with section
8 114(j),” after “disseminate”; and

9 (B) by adding before the semicolon the fol-
10 lowing: “and scientifically valid education eval-
11 uations carried out under this title”.

12 **SEC. 113. DELEGATION.**

13 Section 113 (20 U.S.C. 9513) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)—

15 (A) by striking paragraph (1);

16 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)
17 through (5) as paragraphs (1) through (4), re-
18 spectively; and

19 (C) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated, by
20 striking “of the National Assessment of Edu-
21 cational Progress Authorization Act”;

22 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “Secretary may
23 assign the Institute responsibility for administering”
24 and inserting “Director may accept requests from the
25 Secretary for the Institute to administer”; and

1 (3) *by adding at the end the following:*

2 “(c) *CONTRACT ACQUISITION.*—*With respect to any*
3 *contract entered into under this title, the Director shall be*
4 *consulted—*

5 “*(1) during the procurement process; and*

6 “*(2) in the management of such contract’s per-*
7 *formance, which shall be consistent with the require-*
8 *ments of the performance management system de-*
9 *scribed in section 185.”.*

10 **SEC. 114. OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR.**

11 *Section 114 (20 U.S.C. 9514) is amended—*

12 (1) *in subsection (a), by striking “Except as pro-*
13 *vided in subsection (b)(2), the” and inserting “The”;*

14 (2) *in subsection (b)—*

15 (A) *in paragraph (1), by inserting before*
16 *the period the following: “, except that if a suc-*
17 *cessor to the Director has not been appointed as*
18 *of the date of expiration of the Director’s term,*
19 *the Director may serve for an additional 1-year*
20 *period, beginning on the day after the date of ex-*
21 *piration of the Director’s term, or until a suc-*
22 *cessor has been appointed under subsection (a),*
23 *whichever occurs first”;*

24 (B) *by amending paragraph (2) to read as*
25 *follows:*

1 “(2) *REAPPOINTMENT*.—A Director may be re-
 2 appointed under subsection (a) for one additional
 3 term.”; and

4 (C) in paragraph (3)—

5 (i) in the heading, by striking “*SUBSE-*
 6 *QUENT DIRECTORS*” and inserting “*REC-*
 7 *OMMENDATIONS*”; and

8 (ii) by striking “, other than a Direc-
 9 tor appointed under paragraph (2)”;
 10 (3) in subsection (f)—

11 (A) in paragraph (3), by inserting before
 12 the period the following: “, and, as appropriate,
 13 with such research and activities carried out by
 14 public and private entities, to avoid duplicative
 15 or overlapping efforts”;

16 (B) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, and
 17 the use of evidence” after “statistics activities”;

18 (C) in paragraph (5)—

19 (i) by inserting “and maintain” after
 20 “establish”; and

21 (ii) by inserting “and subsection (h)”
 22 after “section 116(b)(3)”;

23 (D) in paragraph (7), by inserting “dis-
 24 ability,” after “gender,”;

1 (E) in paragraph (8), by striking “histori-
2 cally Black colleges or universities” and insert-
3 ing “minority-serving institutions”;

4 (F) by amending paragraph (9) to read as
5 follows:

6 “(9) To coordinate with the Secretary to ensure
7 that the results of the Institute’s work are coordinated
8 with, and utilized by, the Department’s technical as-
9 sistance providers and dissemination networks.”;

10 (G) by striking paragraphs (10) and (11);

11 (H) by redesignating paragraph (12) as
12 paragraph (10);

13 (4) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection
14 (i);

15 (5) by inserting after subsection (g), the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(h) PEER-REVIEW SYSTEM.—The Director shall es-
18 tablish and maintain a peer-review system involving high-
19 ly-qualified individuals, including practitioners, as appro-
20 priate, with an in-depth knowledge of the subject to be in-
21 vestigated, for—

22 “(1) reviewing and evaluating each application
23 for a grant or cooperative agreement under this title
24 that exceeds \$100,000; and

1 “(2) evaluating and assessing all reports and
 2 other products that exceed \$100,000 to be published
 3 and publicly released by the Institute.”;

4 (6) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

5 (A) by striking “the products and”; and

6 (B) by striking “certify that evidence-based
 7 claims about those products and” and inserting
 8 “determine whether evidence-based claims in
 9 those”; and

10 (7) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(j) *RELEVANCE, DISSEMINATION, AND UTILIZA-*
 12 *TION.—To ensure all activities authorized under this title*
 13 *are rigorous, relevant, and useful for researchers, policy-*
 14 *makers, practitioners, and the public, the Director shall—*

15 “(1) ensure such activities address significant
 16 challenges faced by practitioners, and increase knowl-
 17 edge in the field of education;

18 “(2) ensure that the information, products, and
 19 publications of the Institute are—

20 “(A) prepared and widely disseminated—

21 “(i) in a timely fashion; and

22 “(ii) in forms that are understandable,
 23 easily accessible, and usable, or adaptable
 24 for use in, the improvement of educational
 25 practice; and

1 “(B) widely disseminated through electronic
2 transfer, and other means, such as posting to the
3 Institute’s website or other relevant place;

4 “(3) promote the utilization of the information,
5 products, and publications of the Institute, including
6 through the use of dissemination networks and tech-
7 nical assistance providers, within the Institute and
8 the Department; and

9 “(4) monitor and manage the performance of all
10 activities authorized under this title in accordance
11 with section 185.”.

12 **SEC. 115. PRIORITIES.**

13 Section 115 (20 U.S.C. 9515) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)—

15 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph
16 (1)—

17 (i) by striking “(taking into consider-
18 ation long-term research and development
19 on core issues conducted through the na-
20 tional research and development centers)”
21 and inserting “at least once every 6 years”;
22 and

23 (ii) by striking “such as” and insert-
24 ing “including”;

25 (B) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by inserting “ensuring that all chil-
2 dren have the ability to obtain a high-qual-
3 ity education, particularly” before “clos-
4 ing”;

5 (ii) by striking “especially achievement
6 gaps between”;

7 (iii) by striking “nonminority chil-
8 dren” and inserting “nonminority children,
9 disabled and nondisabled children,”;

10 (iv) by striking “and between dis-
11 advantaged” and inserting “and disadvan-
12 taged”;

13 (v) by striking “and” at the end;

14 (C) by striking paragraph (2); and

15 (D) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(2) improving the quality of early childhood
17 education;

18 “(3) improving education in elementary and sec-
19 ondary schools, particularly among low-performing
20 students and schools; and

21 “(4) improving access to, opportunities for, and
22 completion of postsecondary education.”; and

23 (2) in subsection (d), by striking “by means of
24 the Internet” and inserting “by electronic means such

1 *as posting in an easily accessible manner on the In-*
2 *stitute’s website”.*

3 **SEC. 116. NATIONAL BOARD FOR EDUCATION SCIENCES.**

4 *Section 116 (20 U.S.C. 9516) is amended—*

5 *(1) in subsection (b)—*

6 *(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “to guide*
7 *the work of the Institute” and inserting “, and*
8 *to advise, and provide input to, the Director on*
9 *the activities of the Institute on an ongoing*
10 *basis”;*

11 *(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “under*
12 *section 114(h)” after “procedures”;*

13 *(C) in paragraph (8), by inserting “dis-*
14 *ability,” after “gender,”*

15 *(D) in paragraph (9)—*

16 *(i) by striking “To solicit” and insert-*
17 *ing “To ensure all activities of the Institute*
18 *are relevant to education policy and prac-*
19 *tice by soliciting, on an ongoing basis,”;*
20 *and*

21 *(ii) by striking “consistent with” and*
22 *inserting “consistent with section 114(j)*
23 *and”;*

24 *(E) in paragraph (11)—*

1 (i) by inserting “the Institute’s” after
2 “enhance”; and

3 (ii) by striking “among other Federal
4 and State research agencies” and inserting
5 “with public and private entities to im-
6 prove the work of the Institute”; and

7 (F) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(13) To conduct the evaluations required under
9 subsection (d).”;

10 (2) in subsection (c)—

11 (A) in paragraph (2)—

12 (i) by inserting “Board,” before “Na-
13 tional Academy”;

14 (ii) by striking “and the National
15 Science Advisor” and inserting “the Na-
16 tional Science Advisor, and other entities
17 and organizations that have knowledge of
18 individuals who are highly-qualified to ap-
19 praise education research, statistics, evalua-
20 tions, or development”;

21 (B) in paragraph (4)—

22 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

23 (I) in clause (i), by striking “,
24 which may include those researchers

1 *recommended by the National Academy*
2 *of Sciences”;*

3 (II) *by redesignating clause (ii)*
4 *as clause (iii);*

5 (III) *by inserting after clause (i),*
6 *the following:*

7 “(ii) *Not fewer than 2 practitioners*
8 *who are knowledgeable about the education*
9 *needs of the United States, who may include*
10 *school based professional educators, teachers,*
11 *school leaders, local educational agency su-*
12 *perintendents, and members of local boards*
13 *of education or Bureau-funded school*
14 *boards.”; and*

15 (IV) *in clause (iii), as so redesign-*
16 *ated—*

17 (aa) *by striking “school-*
18 *based professional educators,”;*

19 (bb) *by striking “local edu-*
20 *cational agency superintendents,”;*

21 (cc) *by striking “prin-*
22 *cipals,”;*

23 (dd) *by striking “or local”;*
24 *and*

1 *(ee) by striking “or Bureau-*
2 *funded school boards”; and*

3 *(ii) in subparagraph (B)—*

4 *(I) in the matter preceding clause*
5 *(i), by inserting “beginning on the*
6 *date of appointment of the member,”*
7 *after “4 years,”;*

8 *(II) by striking clause (i);*

9 *(III) by redesignating clause (ii)*
10 *as clause (i);*

11 *(IV) in clause (i), as so redesign-*
12 *ated, by striking the period and in-*
13 *serting “; and”; and*

14 *(V) by adding at the end the fol-*
15 *lowing:*

16 *“(ii) in a case in which a successor to*
17 *a member has not been appointed as of the*
18 *date of expiration of the member’s term, the*
19 *member may serve for an additional 1-year*
20 *period, beginning on the day after the date*
21 *of expiration of the member’s term, or until*
22 *a successor has been appointed under para-*
23 *graph (1), whichever occurs first.”;*

24 *(iii) by striking subparagraph (C);*
25 *and*

1 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph
2 (D) as subparagraph (C);
3 (C) in paragraph (8)—

4 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
5 through (E) as subparagraphs (B) through
6 (F), respectively;

7 (ii) by inserting before subparagraph
8 (B), as so redesignated, the following:

9 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*In the exercise of its*
10 *duties under section 116(b) and in accordance*
11 *with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5*
12 *U.S.C. App.), the Board shall be independent of*
13 *the Director and the other offices and officers of*
14 *the Institute.*”;

15 (iii) in subparagraph (B), as so redesi-
16 gnated, by inserting before the period at
17 the end the following: “for a term of not
18 more than 6 years, and who may be re-
19 appointed by the Board for 1 additional
20 term of not more than 6 years”; and

21 (iv) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(G) *SUBCOMMITTEES.*—*The Board may es-*
23 *tablish standing or temporary subcommittees to*
24 *make recommendations to the Board for carrying*
25 *out activities authorized under this title.*”;

1 (3) *by striking subsection (d);*

2 (4) *by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection*

3 *(d);*

4 (5) *in subsection (d), as so redesignated—*

5 (A) *in the subsection heading, by striking*

6 *“ANNUAL” and inserting “EVALUATION”;*

7 (B) *by striking “The Board” and inserting*

8 *the following:*

9 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board”;*

10 (C) *by striking “not later than July 1 of*

11 *each year, a” and inserting “and make widely*

12 *available to the public (including by electronic*

13 *means such as posting in an easily accessible*

14 *manner on the Institute’s website), a triennial”;*

15 *and*

16 (D) *by adding at the end the following:*

17 *“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—An evaluation report de-*

18 *scribed in paragraph (1) shall include—*

19 (A) *subject to paragraph (3), an evalua-*

20 *tion of the activities authorized for each of the*

21 *National Education Centers, which—*

22 (i) *uses the performance management*

23 *system described in section 185; and*

24 (ii) *is conducted by an independent*

25 *entity;*

1 “(B) a review of the Institute to ensure its
2 work, consistent with the requirements of section
3 114(j), is timely, rigorous, and relevant;

4 “(C) any recommendations regarding ac-
5 tions that may be taken to enhance the ability
6 of the Institute and the National Education Cen-
7 ters to carry out their priorities and missions;
8 and

9 “(D) a summary of the major research find-
10 ings of the Institute and the activities carried
11 out under section 113(b) during the 3 preceding
12 fiscal years.

13 “(3) NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION EVAL-
14 UATION AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE.—With respect to
15 the National Center for Education Evaluation and
16 Regional Assistance, an evaluation report described
17 in paragraph (1) shall contain—

18 “(A) an evaluation described in paragraph
19 (2)(A) of the activities authorized for such Cen-
20 ter, except for the regional educational labora-
21 tories established under section 174; and

22 “(B) a summative or interim evaluation,
23 whichever is most recent, for each such labora-
24 tory conducted under section 174(i) on or after
25 the date of enactment of the Strengthening Edu-

1 *cation through Research Act or, in a case in*
 2 *which such an evaluation is not available for a*
 3 *laboratory, the most recent evaluation for the*
 4 *laboratory conducted prior to the date of enact-*
 5 *ment of the Strengthening Education through*
 6 *Research Act.”; and*

7 *(6) by striking subsection (f).*

8 **SEC. 117. COMMISSIONERS OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION**
 9 **CENTERS.**

10 *Section 117 (20 U.S.C. 9517) is amended—*

11 *(1) in subsection (a)—*

12 *(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Except*
 13 *as provided in subsection (b), each” and insert-*
 14 *ing “Each”;*

15 *(B) in paragraph (2)—*

16 *(i) by striking “Except as provided in*
 17 *subsection (b), each” and inserting “Each”;*
 18 *and*

19 *(ii) by inserting “, statistics,” after*
 20 *“research”;*

21 *(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “Except*
 22 *as provided in subsection (b), each” and insert-*
 23 *ing “Each”;*

24 *(2) by striking subsection (b);*

1 (3) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as
 2 subsections (b) and (c), respectively; and
 3 (4) in subsection (c), as so redesignated, by strik-
 4 ing “, except the Commissioner for Education Statis-
 5 tics,”.

6 **SEC. 118. TRANSPARENCY.**

7 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 119 (20 U.S.C. 9519) is
 8 amended to read as follows:

9 **“SEC. 119. TRANSPARENCY.**

10 “Not later than 120 days after awarding a grant, con-
 11 tract, or cooperative agreement under this title in excess of
 12 \$100,000, the Director shall make publicly available (in-
 13 cluding through electronic means such as posting in an eas-
 14 ily accessible manner on the Institute’s website) a descrip-
 15 tion of the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement, in-
 16 cluding, at a minimum, the amount, duration, recipient,
 17 and the purpose of the grant, contract, or cooperative agree-
 18 ment.”.

19 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—The table of contents
 20 in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public Law
 21 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking the item
 22 relating to section 119 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 119. Transparency.”.

5 **PART B—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION**

6 *RESEARCH*

8 *Section 131(b) (20 U.S.C. 9531(b)) is amended—*

11 “(1) to sponsor sustained research that will lead
12 to the accumulation of knowledge and understanding
13 of education, consistent with the priorities described
14 in section 115;”;

17 (3) in paragraph (4), by striking the period and
18 inserting “; and”; and

19 (4) *by adding at the end the following:*

20 “(5) consistent with section 114(j), to widely dis-
21 seminate and promote utilization of the work of the
22 Research Center.”.

24 *Section 133 (20 U.S.C. 9533) is amended—*

25 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “peer-re-
2 view standards and”;

3 (B) by striking paragraph (2);

4 (C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
5 paragraph (2);

6 (D) by striking paragraph (4);

7 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (5)
8 through (9) as paragraphs (3) through (7), re-
9 spectively;

10 (F) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by
11 inserting “in the implementation of programs
12 carried out by the Department and other agen-
13 cies” before “within the Federal Government”;

14 (G) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated, by
15 striking “disseminate, through the National Cen-
16 ter for Education Evaluation and Regional As-
17 sistance,” and inserting “widely disseminate,
18 consistent with section 114(j),”;

19 (H) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated—

20 (i) by striking “Director” and insert-
21 ing “Board”; and

22 (ii) by striking “of a biennial report,
23 as described in section 119” and inserting
24 “and dissemination of each evaluation re-
25 port under section 116(d)”;

1 (I) by redesignating paragraphs (10) and
2 (11) as paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively;

3 (J) by inserting after paragraph (7), as so
4 redesignated, the following:

5 “(8) to the extent time and resources allow, when
6 findings from previous research under this part pro-
7 voke relevant follow up questions, carry out research
8 initiatives on such follow up questions;”;

9 (K) by amending paragraph (9), as so re-
10 designated, to read as follows:

11 “(9) carry out research initiatives, including rig-
12 orous, peer-reviewed, large-scale, long-term, and
13 broadly applicable empirical research, regarding the
14 impact of technology on education, including online
15 education and hybrid learning;”;

16 (L) in paragraph (10), as so redesignated,
17 by striking the period and inserting “; and”;
18 and

19 (M) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(11) to the extent feasible, carry out research on
21 the quality of implementation of practices and strate-
22 gies determined to be effective through scientifically
23 valid research.”.

24 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
25 lows:

1 “(b) *PLAN.*—*The Research Commissioner shall propose*
2 *to the Director and, subject to the approval of the Director,*
3 *implement a research plan for the activities of the Research*
4 *Center that—*

5 “(1) *is consistent with the priorities and mission*
6 *of the Institute and the mission of the Research Cen-*
7 *ter described in section 131(b), and includes the ac-*
8 *tivities described in subsection (a);*

9 “(2) *is carried out and, as appropriate, updated*
10 *and modified, including through the use of the results*
11 *of the Research Center’s most recent evaluation report*
12 *under section 116(d);*

13 “(3) *describes how the Research Center will use*
14 *the performance management system described in sec-*
15 *tion 185 to assess and improve the activities of the*
16 *Center;*

17 “(4) *meets the procedures for peer review estab-*
18 *lished and maintained by the Director under section*
19 *114(f)(5) and the standards of research described in*
20 *section 134; and*

21 “(5) *includes both basic research and applied re-*
22 *search, which shall include research conducted*
23 *through field-initiated research and ongoing research*
24 *initiatives.”;*

1 (3) *by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection*
2 *(d);*

3 (4) *by inserting after subsection (b), as so*
4 *amended, the following:*

5 “(c) *GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREE-*
6 *MENTS.—*

7 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Research Commissioner*
8 *may award grants to, or enter into contracts or coop-*
9 *erative agreements, with eligible applicants to carry*
10 *out research under subsection (a).*

11 “(2) *ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this sub-*
12 *section, the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an appli-*
13 *cant that has the ability and capacity to conduct sci-*
14 *entifically valid research.*

15 “(3) *APPLICATIONS.—*

16 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant*
17 *that wishes to receive a grant, or enter into a*
18 *contract or cooperative agreement, under this*
19 *section shall submit an application to the Re-*
20 *search Commissioner at such time, in such man-*
21 *ner, and containing such information as the Re-*
22 *search Commissioner may require.*

23 “(B) *CONTENT.—An application submitted*
24 *under subparagraph (A) shall describe how the*
25 *eligible applicant will address and demonstrate*

1 *progress on the requirements of the performance*
2 *management system described in section 185,*
3 *with respect to the activities that will be carried*
4 *out under the grant, contract, or cooperative*
5 *agreement.”; and*

6 *(5) in subsection (d), as redesignated by para-*
7 *graph (3)—*

8 *(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as*
9 *follows:*

10 *“(1) SUPPORT.—In carrying out activities under*
11 *subsection (a)(2), the Research Commissioner shall*
12 *support national research and development centers*
13 *that address topics of importance and relevance in the*
14 *field of education across the country and are con-*
15 *sistent with the Institute’s priorities under section*
16 *115.”;*

17 *(B) by striking paragraphs (2), (3), and*
18 *(5);*

19 *(C) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (6),*
20 *and (7) as paragraph (2), (3), and (4), respec-*
21 *tively;*

22 *(D) by amending paragraph (2), as so re-*
23 *designated—*

1 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
 2 graph (A), by striking “5 additional” and
 3 inserting “2 additional”;

4 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 5 the period and inserting “; and”; and

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
 7 lowing:

8 “(C) demonstrates progress on the require-
 9 ments of the performance management system
 10 described in section 185.”;

11 (E) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by
 12 striking “paragraphs (4) and (5)” and inserting
 13 “paragraph (2)”; and

14 (F) by amending paragraph (4), as so re-
 15 designated, to read as follows:

16 “(4) *DISAGGREGATION.*—To the extent feasible
 17 and when relevant to the research being conducted, re-
 18 search conducted under this subsection shall be
 19 disaggregated and cross-tabulated by age, race, gen-
 20 der, disability status, English learner status, and so-
 21 cioeconomic background.”.

22 **SEC. 133. STANDARDS FOR CONDUCT AND EVALUATION OF**
 23 **RESEARCH.**

24 Section 134 (20 U.S.C. 9534) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “based”
 2 and inserting “valid”; and
 3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and
 4 wide dissemination activities” and inserting
 5 “and, consistent with section 114(j), wide dis-
 6 semination and utilization activities”;
 7 (2) by striking subsection (b); and
 8 (3) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection
 9 (b).

10 **PART C—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION**
 11 **STATISTICS**

12 **SEC. 151. ESTABLISHMENT.**

13 Section 151(b) (20 U.S.C. 9541(b)) is amended—
 14 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and con-
 15 sistent with the privacy protections under section
 16 183” after “manner”; and
 17 (2) in paragraph (3)—
 18 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “dis-
 19 ability,” after “cultural,”; and
 20 (B) by amending subparagraph (B) to read
 21 as follows:
 22 “(B) consistent with section 114(j), is rel-
 23 evant, timely, and widely disseminated.”.

24 **SEC. 152. DUTIES.**

25 Section 153 (20 U.S.C. 9543) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
3 by inserting “, consistent with the privacy pro-
4 tections under section 183,” after “Center shall”;

5 (B) in paragraph (1)—

6 (i) by amending subparagraph (D) to
7 read as follows:

8 “(D) secondary school graduation and com-
9 pletion rates, including the four-year adjusted
10 cohort graduation rate (as defined in section
11 200.19(b)(1)(i)(A) of title 34, Code of Federal
12 Regulations, as such section was in effect on No-
13 vember 28, 2008) and the extended-year adjusted
14 cohort graduation rate (as defined in section
15 200.19(b)(1)(v)(A) of title 34, Code of Federal
16 Regulations, as such section was in effect on No-
17 vember 28, 2008), and school dropout rates, and
18 adult literacy;”;

19 (ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking
20 “and opportunity for,” and inserting “op-
21 portunity for, and completion of”;

22 (iii) by amending subparagraph (F) to
23 read as follows:

24 “(F) teaching, including information on
25 pre-service preparation, professional develop-

ment, teacher distribution, and teacher and school leader evaluation;”;

(iv) in subparagraph (G), by inserting “and school leaders” before the semicolon;

(v) in subparagraph (H), by inserting “, climate, and in- and out-of-school suspensions and expulsions” before “, including information regarding”;

(vi) by amending subparagraph (K) to read as follows:

“(K) the access to, and use of, technology to improve elementary schools and secondary schools;”;

(vii) in subparagraph (L), by striking “and opportunity for,” and inserting “opportunity for, and quality of”;

(viii) in subparagraph (M), by striking “such programs during school recesses” and inserting “summer school”; and

(ix) in subparagraph (N), by striking “vocational” and inserting “career”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “when such disaggregated information will facilitate educational and policy decisionmaking” and inserting “so long as any reported information

1 *does not reveal individually identifiable informa-*
2 *tion”;*

3 *(D) in paragraph (4), by inserting before*
4 *the semicolon the following: “, and the imple-*
5 *mentation (with the assistance of the Depart-*
6 *ment and other Federal officials who have statu-*
7 *tory authority to provide assistance on applica-*
8 *ble privacy laws, regulations, and policies) of*
9 *appropriate privacy protections”;*

10 *(E) in paragraph (5), by striking “promote*
11 *linkages across States,”;*

12 *(F) in paragraph (6)—*

13 *(i) by striking “Third” and inserting*
14 *“Trends in”; and*

15 *(ii) by inserting “and the Program for*
16 *International Student Assessment” after*
17 *“Science Study”;*

18 *(G) in paragraph (7), by inserting before*
19 *the semicolon the following: “, ensuring such col-*
20 *lections protect student privacy consistent with*
21 *section 183”;*

22 *(H) by amending paragraph (8) to read as*
23 *follows:*

1 “(8) assisting the Board in the preparation and
 2 dissemination of each evaluation report under section
 3 116(d); and”; and

4 (I) by striking paragraph (9);

5 (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection
 6 (c); and

7 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
 8 lowing:

9 “(b) *PLAN.—The Statistics Commissioner shall pro-*
 10 *pose to the Director and, subject to the approval of the Di-*
 11 *rector, implement a plan for activities of the Statistics Cen-*
 12 *ter that—*

13 “(1) *is consistent with the priorities and mission*
 14 *of the Institute and the mission of the Statistics Cen-*
 15 *ter described in section 151(b);*

16 “(2) *is carried out and, as appropriate, updated*
 17 *and modified, including through the use of the results*
 18 *of the Statistic Center’s most recent evaluation report*
 19 *under section 116(d); and*

20 “(3) *describes how the Statistics Center will use*
 21 *the performance management system described in sec-*
 22 *tion 185 to assess and improve the activities of the*
 23 *Center.”.*

24 **SEC. 153. PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES.**

25 *Section 154 (20 U.S.C. 9544) is amended—*

1 (1) *in subsection (a)—*

2 (A) *by striking “In carrying” and inserting*
3 *the following:*

4 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—In carrying*”; and

5 (B) *by adding at the end the following:*

6 “(2) *ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section,*
7 *the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an applicant that*
8 *has the ability and capacity to carry out activities*
9 *under this part.*

10 “(3) *APPLICATIONS.—*

11 (A) *IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant*
12 *that wishes to receive a grant, or enter into a*
13 *contract or cooperative agreement, under this*
14 *section shall submit an application to the Statis-*
15 *tics Commissioner at such time, in such manner,*
16 *and containing such information as the Statis-*
17 *tics Commissioner may require.*

18 (B) *CONTENTS.—An application submitted*
19 *under subparagraph (A) shall describe how the*
20 *eligible applicant will address and demonstrate*
21 *progress on the requirements of the performance*
22 *management system described in section 185,*
23 *with respect to the activities that will be carried*
24 *out under the grant, contract, or cooperative*
25 *agreement.”;*

1 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by striking “voca-
2 tional and” and inserting “career and technical edu-
3 cation programs,”; and

4 (3) in subsection (c), by striking “5 years” the
5 second place it appears and inserting “2 years if the
6 recipient demonstrates progress on the requirements of
7 the performance management system described in sec-
8 tion 185, with respect to the activities carried out
9 under the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement
10 received under this section”.

11 **SEC. 154. REPORTS.**

12 Section 155 (20 U.S.C. 9545) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “(consistent
14 with section 114(h))” after “review”; and

15 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “2003” and in-
16 serting “2015”.

17 **SEC. 155. DISSEMINATION.**

18 Section 156 (20 U.S.C. 9546) is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the
20 following: “Such projects shall adhere to student pri-
21 vacy requirements under section 183.”; and

22 (2) in subsection (e)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end
24 the following: “Before receiving access to edu-
25 cational data under this paragraph, a Federal

1 *agency shall describe to the Statistics Center the*
 2 *specific research intent for use of the data, how*
 3 *access to the data may meet such research intent,*
 4 *and how the Federal agency will protect the con-*
 5 *fidentiality of the data consistent with the re-*
 6 *quirements of section 183.”;*

7 *(B) in paragraph (2)—*

8 *(i) by inserting “and consistent with*
 9 *section 183” after “may prescribe”; and*

10 *(ii) by adding at the end the following:*
 11 *“Before receiving access to data under this*
 12 *paragraph, an interested party shall de-*
 13 *scribe to the Statistics Center the specific*
 14 *research intent for use of the data, how ac-*
 15 *cess to the data may meet such research in-*
 16 *tent, and how the party will protect the*
 17 *confidentiality of the data consistent with*
 18 *the requirements of section 183.”; and*

19 *(C) by adding at the end the following:*

20 *“(3) DENIAL AUTHORITY.—The Statistics Center*
 21 *shall have the authority to deny any requests for ac-*
 22 *cess to data under paragraph (1) or (2) for any sci-*
 23 *entific deficiencies in the proposed research design or*
 24 *research intent for use of the data, or if the request*

1 *would introduce risk of a privacy violation or misuse*
 2 *of data.”.*

3 **SEC. 156. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION STATISTICS SYSTEMS.**

4 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 157 (20 U.S.C. 9547) is*
 5 *amended—*

6 *(1) in the heading, by striking “**SYSTEMS**” and*
 7 *inserting “**PARTNERSHIPS**”;*

8 *(2) by striking “national cooperative education*
 9 *statistics systems” and inserting “cooperative edu-*
 10 *cation statistics partnerships”;*

11 *(3) by striking “producing and maintaining,*
 12 *with the cooperation” and inserting “reviewing and*
 13 *improving, with the voluntary participation”;*

14 *(4) by striking “comparable and uniform” and*
 15 *inserting “data quality standards, which may include*
 16 *establishing voluntary guidelines to standardize”;*

17 *(5) by striking “adult education, and libraries,”*
 18 *and inserting “and adult education”; and*

19 *(6) by adding at the end the following: “No stu-*
 20 *dent data shall be collected by the partnerships estab-*
 21 *lished under this section, nor shall such partnerships*
 22 *establish a national student data system.”.*

23 *(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents*
 24 *in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public Law*

1 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking the item
 2 relating to section 157 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 157. Cooperative education statistics partnerships.”.

3 **PART D—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION**

4 **EVALUATION AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE**

5 **SEC. 171. ESTABLISHMENT.**

6 Section 171 (20 U.S.C. 9561) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) by striking paragraph (1);

9 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3),
 10 and (4) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respec-
 11 tively;

12 (C) in paragraph (1), as so redesignated, by
 13 striking “of such programs” and all that follows
 14 through “science)” and inserting “and to evalu-
 15 ate the implementation of such programs”;

16 (D) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated, by
 17 striking “and wide dissemination of results of”
 18 and inserting “and, consistent with section
 19 114(j), the wide dissemination and utilization of
 20 results of all”; and

21 (2) by striking subsection (c).

22 **SEC. 172. COMMISSIONER FOR EDUCATION EVALUATION**

23 **AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE.**

24 Section 172 (20 U.S.C. 9562) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by amending paragraph (2) to read as
2 *follows:*

3 “(2) *widely disseminate, consistent with section*
4 *114(j), all information on scientifically valid research*
5 *and statistics supported by the Institute and all sci-*
6 *entifically valid education evaluations supported by*
7 *the Institute, particularly to State educational agen-*
8 *cies and local educational agencies, to institutions of*
9 *higher education, to the public, the media, voluntary*
10 *organizations, professional associations, and other*
11 *constituencies, especially with respect to the priorities*
12 *described in section 115;”;*

13 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, con-
14 sistent with section 114(j)” after “timely, and ef-
15 ficient manner”;

16 (C) in paragraph (4)—

17 (i) by striking “development and dis-
18 semination” and inserting “development,
19 dissemination, and utilization”; and

20 (ii) by striking “the provision of tech-
21 nical assistance,”;

22 (D) in paragraph (5), by inserting “and”
23 after the semicolon;

24 (E) in paragraph (6)—

1 (i) by striking “Director” and insert-
2 ing “Board”;

3 (ii) by striking “preparation of a bien-
4 nial report” and inserting “preparation
5 and dissemination of each evaluation re-
6 port”; and

7 (iii) by striking “119; and” and in-
8 serting “116(d).”;

9 (F) by striking paragraph (7);

10 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

11 (A) by inserting “all” before “information
12 disseminated”; and

13 (B) by striking “, which may include” and
14 all that follows through “of this Act”;

15 (3) by striking subsection (c) and redesignating
16 subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

17 (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(c) *PLAN.—The Evaluation and Regional Assistance*
20 *Commissioner shall propose to the Director and, subject to*
21 *the approval of the Director, implement a plan for the ac-*
22 *tivities of the National Center for Education Evaluation*
23 *and Regional Assistance that—*

1 “(1) is consistent with the priorities and mission
2 of the Institute and the mission of the Center de-
3 scribed in section 171(b);

4 “(2) is carried out and, as appropriate, updated
5 and modified, including through the use of the results
6 of the Center’s most recent evaluation report under
7 section 116(d); and

8 “(3) describes how the Center will use the per-
9 formance management system described in section 185
10 to assess and improve the activities of the Center.

11 “(d) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREE-
12 MENTS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the duties
14 under this part, the Evaluation and Regional Assist-
15 ance Commissioner may—

16 “(A) award grants, contracts, or cooperative
17 agreements to eligible applicants to carry out the
18 activities under this part; and

19 “(B) provide technical assistance.

20 “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section,
21 the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an applicant that
22 has the ability and capacity to carry out activities
23 under this part.

24 “(3) ENTITIES TO CONDUCT EVALUATIONS.—In
25 awarding grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements

1 *under paragraph (1) to carry out activities under sec-*
2 *tion 173, the Evaluation and Regional Assistance*
3 *Commissioner shall make such awards to eligible ap-*
4 *plicants with the ability and capacity to conduct sci-*
5 *entifically valid education evaluations.*

6 “(4) *APPLICATIONS.*—

7 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*An eligible applicant*
8 *that wishes to receive a grant, contract, or coop-*
9 *erative agreement under paragraph (1) shall sub-*
10 *mit an application to the Evaluation and Re-*
11 *gional Assistance Commissioner at such time, in*
12 *such manner, and containing such information*
13 *as the Commissioner may require.*

14 “(B) *CONTENTS.*—*An application submitted*
15 *under subparagraph (A) shall describe how the*
16 *eligible applicant will address and demonstrate*
17 *progress on the requirements of the performance*
18 *management system described in section 185,*
19 *with respect to the activities carried out under*
20 *such grant, contract, or cooperative agreement.*

21 “(5) *DURATION.*—*Notwithstanding any other*
22 *provision of law, the grants, contracts, and coopera-*
23 *tive agreements under paragraph (1) may be award-*
24 *ed, on a competitive basis, for a period of not more*
25 *than 5 years, and may be renewed at the discretion*

1 *of the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-*
 2 *sioner for an additional period of not more than 2*
 3 *years if the recipient demonstrates progress on the re-*
 4 *quirements of the performance management system*
 5 *described in section 185, with respect to the activities*
 6 *carried out under the grant, contract, or cooperative*
 7 *agreement.”;*

8 *(5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated—*

9 *(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “There is*
 10 *established” and all that follows through “Re-*
 11 *gional Assistance” and inserting “The Evalua-*
 12 *tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner may*
 13 *establish”;*

14 *(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “all”*
 15 *before “products”; and*

16 *(C) in paragraph (2)(B)(ii), by striking*
 17 *“2002” and all that follows through the period*
 18 *and inserting “2002.”.*

19 **SEC. 173. EVALUATIONS.**

20 *Section 173 (20 U.S.C. 9563) is amended—*

21 *(1) in subsection (a)—*

22 *(A) in paragraph (1)—*

23 *(i) in the matter preceding subpara-*
 24 *graph (A), by striking “may” and inserting*
 25 *“shall”;*

1 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
2 “evaluations” and inserting “high-quality
3 evaluations, including impact evaluations
4 that use rigorous methodologies that permit
5 the strongest possible causal inferences,”;

6 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
7 before the semicolon at the end the fol-
8 lowing: “, including programs under part A
9 of such title (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.)”;

10 (iv) by striking subparagraph (C) and
11 redesignating subparagraph (D) as sub-
12 paragraph (C);

13 (v) by striking subparagraph (E) and
14 redesignating subparagraphs (F) and (G)
15 as subparagraphs (D) and (H), respectively;
16 and

17 (vi) by inserting after subparagraph
18 (D), as so redesignated, the following:

19 “(E) provide evaluation findings in an un-
20 derstandable, easily accessible, and usable format
21 to support program improvement;

22 “(F) support the evaluation activities de-
23 scribed in section 401 of the Strengthening Edu-
24 cation through Research Act that are carried
25 about by the Director; and

1 “(G) to the extent feasible—

2 “(i) examine evaluations conducted or
3 supported by others to determine the quality
4 and relevance of the evidence of effectiveness
5 generated by those evaluations, with the ap-
6 proval of the Director;

7 “(ii) review and supplement Federal
8 education program evaluations, particularly
9 such evaluations by the Department, to de-
10 termine or enhance the quality and rel-
11 evance of the evidence generated by those
12 evaluations;

13 “(iii) conduct implementation evalua-
14 tions that promote continuous improvement
15 and inform policymaking;

16 “(iv) evaluate the short- and long-term
17 effects and cost efficiencies across programs
18 assisted or authorized under Federal law
19 and administrated by the Department; and

20 “(v) synthesize the results of evaluation
21 studies for and across Federal education
22 programs, policies, and practices.”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (2)—

24 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
25 “and” at the end;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
2 the period and inserting “under section
3 114(h); and”; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(C) be widely disseminated, consistent with
7 section 114(j).”; and

8 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “contracts” and
9 inserting “grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
10 ments”.

11 **SEC. 174. REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORIES FOR RE-**
12 **SEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DISSEMINATION,**
13 **AND EVALUATION.**

14 (a) *IN GENERAL*.—Section 174 (20 U.S.C. 9564) is
15 amended—

16 (1) in the section heading by striking “**TECH-**
17 **NICAL ASSISTANCE**” and inserting “**EVALUA-**
18 **TION**”;

19 (2) in subsection (a)—

20 (A) by striking “Director” and inserting
21 “Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-
22 sioner”;

23 (B) by striking “contracts” and inserting
24 “grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements”;
25 and

1 (C) by inserting “not more than” before “10
2 regional”;

3 (3) in subsection (c)—

4 (A) by striking “The Director” and insert-
5 ing the following:

6 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Evaluation and Re-*
7 *gional Assistance Commissioner*”;

8 (B) by striking “contracts under this section
9 with research organizations, institutions, agen-
10 cies, institutions of higher education,” and in-
11 serting “grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
12 ments under this section with public or private,
13 nonprofit or for-profit research organizations,
14 other organizations, or institutions of higher
15 education,”;

16 (C) by striking “or individuals,”;

17 (D) by striking “, including regional enti-
18 ties” and all that follows through “(107–110))”;
19 and

20 (E) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(2) *DEFINITION.*—*For purposes of this section,*
22 *the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an entity de-*
23 *scribed in paragraph (1).’*”;

24 (4) by striking subsections (d) through (j) and
25 inserting the following:

1 “(d) *APPLICATIONS.*—

2 “(1) *SUBMISSION.*—

3 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each eligible applicant*
4 *desiring a contract grant, contract, or coopera-*
5 *tive agreement under this section shall submit an*
6 *application at such time, in such manner, and*
7 *containing such information as the Evaluation*
8 *and Regional Assistance Commissioner may rea-*
9 *sonably require.*

10 “(B) *INPUT.*—*To ensure that applications*
11 *submitted under this paragraph are reflective of*
12 *the needs of the regions to be served, each eligible*
13 *applicant submitting such an application shall*
14 *seek input from State educational agencies and*
15 *local educational agencies in the region that the*
16 *award will serve, and other individuals with*
17 *knowledge of the region’s needs. Such individuals*
18 *may include members of the regional advisory*
19 *committee for the region under section 206(a).*

20 “(2) *PLAN.*—

21 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each application sub-*
22 *mitted under paragraph (1) shall contain a plan*
23 *for the activities of the regional educational lab-*
24 *oratory to be established under this section,*
25 *which shall be updated, modified, and improved,*

1 *as appropriate, on an ongoing basis, including*
2 *by using the results of the laboratory’s interim*
3 *evaluation under subsection (i)(3).*

4 “(B) *CONTENTS.*—A plan described in sub-
5 *paragraph (A) shall address—*

6 “(i) *the priorities for applied research,*
7 *development, evaluations, and wide dissemi-*
8 *nation established under section 207;*

9 “(ii) *the needs of State educational*
10 *agencies and local educational agencies, on*
11 *an ongoing basis, using available State and*
12 *local data, including the relevant results of*
13 *the region’s assessment under section 206(e);*
14 *and*

15 “(iii) *if available, demonstrated sup-*
16 *port from State educational agencies and*
17 *local educational agencies in the region,*
18 *such as letters of support or signed memo-*
19 *randa of understanding.*

20 “(3) *NON-FEDERAL SUPPORT.*—In conducting a
21 *competition for grants, contracts, or cooperative*
22 *agreements under subsection (a), the Evaluation and*
23 *Regional Assistance Commissioner shall give priority*
24 *to eligible applicants that will provide a portion of*
25 *non-Federal funds to maximize support for activities*

1 *of the regional educational laboratories to be estab-*
 2 *lished under this section.*

3 “(e) *AWARDING GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERA-*
 4 *TIVE AGREEMENTS.—*

5 “(1) *ASSURANCES.—In awarding grants, con-*
 6 *tracts, or cooperative agreements under this section,*
 7 *the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-*
 8 *sioner shall—*

9 “(A) *make such an award for not more*
 10 *than a 5-year period;*

11 “(B) *ensure that regional educational lab-*
 12 *oratories established under this section have*
 13 *strong and effective governance, organization,*
 14 *management, and administration, and employ*
 15 *qualified staff; and*

16 “(C) *ensure that each such laboratory has*
 17 *the flexibility to respond in a timely fashion to*
 18 *the needs of the laboratory’s region, including—*

19 “(i) *through using the results of the*
 20 *laboratory’s interim evaluation under sub-*
 21 *section (i)(3) to improve and modify the ac-*
 22 *tivities of the laboratory before the end of*
 23 *the award period; and*

24 “(ii) *through sharing preliminary re-*
 25 *sults of the laboratory’s research, as appro-*

1 *priate, to increase the relevance and useful-*
2 *ness of the research.*

3 *“(2) COORDINATION.—To ensure coordination*
4 *and prevent unnecessary duplication of activities*
5 *among the regions, the Evaluation and Regional As-*
6 *sistance Commissioner shall—*

7 *“(A) share information about the activities*
8 *of each regional educational laboratory with each*
9 *other regional educational laboratory, the De-*
10 *partment, the Director, and the National Board*
11 *for Education Sciences;*

12 *“(B) ensure, where appropriate, that the ac-*
13 *tivities of each regional educational laboratory*
14 *established under this section also serve national*
15 *interests;*

16 *“(C) ensure each such regional educational*
17 *laboratory establishes strong partnerships among*
18 *practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and oth-*
19 *ers, so that such partnerships are continued in*
20 *the absence of Federal support; and*

21 *“(D) enable, where appropriate, for such a*
22 *laboratory to work in a region being served by*
23 *another laboratory or to carry out a project that*
24 *extends beyond the region served by the labora-*
25 *tory.*

1 “(3) *COLLABORATION WITH TECHNICAL ASSIST-*
2 *ANCE PROVIDERS.—Each regional educational labora-*
3 *tory established under this section shall, on an ongo-*
4 *ing basis, coordinate its activities, collaborate, and*
5 *regularly exchange information with the comprehen-*
6 *sive centers (established in section 203) in the region*
7 *in which the center is located, and with comprehen-*
8 *sive centers located outside of its region, as appro-*
9 *priate.*

10 “(4) *OUTREACH.—*

11 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—In conducting competi-*
12 *tions for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-*
13 *ments under this section, the Evaluation and Re-*
14 *gional Assistance Commissioner shall—*

15 “(i) *by making information and tech-*
16 *nical assistance relating to the competition*
17 *widely available, actively encourage eligible*
18 *applicants to compete for such an award;*
19 *and*

20 “(ii) *seek input from the chief executive*
21 *officers of States, chief State school officers,*
22 *educators, parents, superintendents, and*
23 *other individuals with knowledge of the*
24 *needs of the regions to be served by the*
25 *awards, regarding—*

1 “(I) the needs in the regions for
 2 applied research, evaluation, develop-
 3 ment, and wide-dissemination activi-
 4 ties authorized by this title; and

5 “(II) how such needs may be ad-
 6 dressed most effectively.

7 “(B) REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—
 8 The individuals described in subparagraph
 9 (A)(ii) may include members of the regional ad-
 10 visory committees established under section
 11 206(a).

12 “(5) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.—Before the
 13 Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commissioner
 14 awards a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement
 15 under this section, the Director shall establish meas-
 16 urable performance indicators for assessing the ongoing
 17 progress and performance of the regional edu-
 18 cational laboratories established with such awards
 19 that address—

20 “(A) the requirements of the performance
 21 management system described in section 185;
 22 and

23 “(B) the relevant results of the regional as-
 24 sessments under section 206(e) .

1 “(6) *STANDARDS.—The Evaluation and Re-*
2 *gional Assistance Commissioner shall adhere to the*
3 *Institute’s system for technical and peer review under*
4 *section 114(h) in reviewing the applied research ac-*
5 *tivities and research-based reports of the regional edu-*
6 *cational laboratories.*

7 “(7) *REQUIRED CONSIDERATION.—In deter-*
8 *mining whether to award a grant, contract, or coop-*
9 *erative agreement under this section to an eligible ap-*
10 *plicant that previously established a regional edu-*
11 *cational laboratory under this section, the Evaluation*
12 *and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall consider*
13 *the results of such laboratory’s summative evaluation*
14 *under subsection (i)(2).*

15 “(f) *MISSION.—Each regional educational laboratory*
16 *established under this section shall—*

17 “(1) *conduct applied research, development, and*
18 *evaluation activities with State educational agencies,*
19 *local educational agencies, and, as appropriate,*
20 *schools funded by the Bureau;*

21 “(2) *widely disseminate such work, consistent*
22 *with section 114(j); and*

23 “(3) *develop the capacity of State educational*
24 *agencies, local educational agencies, and, as appro-*

1 *priate, schools funded by the Bureau to carry out the*
2 *activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2).*

3 *“(g) ACTIVITIES.—To carry out the mission described*
4 *in subsection (f), each regional educational laboratory es-*
5 *tablished under this section shall carry out the following*
6 *activities:*

7 *“(1) Conduct, widely disseminate, and promote*
8 *utilization of applied research, development activities,*
9 *evaluations, and other scientifically valid research.*

10 *“(2) Develop and improve the plan for the lab-*
11 *oratory under subsection (d)(2) for serving the region*
12 *of the laboratory, and as appropriate, national needs,*
13 *on an ongoing basis, which shall include seeking*
14 *input and incorporating feedback from the representa-*
15 *tives of State educational agencies and local edu-*
16 *cational agencies in the region, and other individuals*
17 *with knowledge of the region’s needs. Such representa-*
18 *tives and other individuals may include members of*
19 *the regional advisory committee for the region estab-*
20 *lished under section 206(a).*

21 *“(3) Ensure research and related products are*
22 *relevant and responsive to the needs of the region, in-*
23 *cluding by using the relevant results of the region’s*
24 *assessment under section 206(e).*

25 *“(h) GOVERNING BOARD.—*

1 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each regional educational*
 2 *laboratory established under this section may estab-*
 3 *lish a governing board to improve the management of*
 4 *activities that the laboratory carries out under this*
 5 *section.*

6 “(2) *BOARD DUTIES.*—*A Board established*
 7 *under paragraph (1) shall coordinate and align its*
 8 *work with the work of the regional advisory com-*
 9 *mittee for the region established under section 206.*

10 “(i) *EVALUATIONS.*—

11 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Evaluation and Re-*
 12 *gional Assistance Commissioner shall—*

13 “(A) *provide for ongoing summative and*
 14 *interim evaluations described in paragraphs (2)*
 15 *and (3), respectively, of each of the regional edu-*
 16 *cational laboratories established under this sec-*
 17 *tion in carrying out the full range of duties de-*
 18 *scribed in this section; and*

19 “(B) *transmit the results of such evalua-*
 20 *tions, through appropriate means, to the appro-*
 21 *priate congressional committees, the Director,*
 22 *and the public.*

23 “(2) *SUMMATIVE EVALUATIONS.*—*The Evalua-*
 24 *tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall en-*
 25 *sure each regional educational laboratory established*

1 *under this section is evaluated by an independent en-*
 2 *tity at the end of the period of the grant, contract, or*
 3 *cooperative agreement that established such labora-*
 4 *tory, which shall—*

5 *“(A) be completed in a timely fashion;*

6 *“(B) assess how well the laboratory is meet-*
 7 *ing the measurable performance indicators estab-*
 8 *lished under subsection (e)(5); and*

9 *“(C) consider the extent to which the labora-*
 10 *tory ensures that the activities of such laboratory*
 11 *are relevant and useful to the work of State and*
 12 *local practitioners and policymakers.*

13 *“(3) INTERIM EVALUATIONS.—The Evaluation*
 14 *and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall ensure*
 15 *each regional educational laboratory established*
 16 *under this section is evaluated at the midpoint of the*
 17 *period of the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement*
 18 *that established such laboratory, which shall—*

19 *“(A) assess how well such laboratory is*
 20 *meeting the performance indicators described in*
 21 *subsection (e)(5); and*

22 *“(B) be used to improve the effectiveness of*
 23 *such laboratory in carrying out its plan under*
 24 *subsection (d)(2).*

25 *“(j) CONTINUATION OF AWARDS; RECOMPETITION.—*

1 “(1) *CONTINUATION OF AWARDS.*—*The Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall continue awards made to each eligible applicant for the support of regional educational laboratories established under this section prior to the date of enactment of the Strengthening Education through Research Act, as such awards were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Strengthening Education through Research Act, for the duration of those awards, in accordance with the terms and agreements of such awards.*

12 “(2) *RECOMPETITION.*—*Not later than the end of the period of the awards described in paragraph (1), the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall—*

16 “(A) *hold a competition to make grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under this section to eligible applicants, which may include eligible applicants that held awards described in paragraph (1); and*

21 “(B) *in determining whether to select an eligible applicant that held an award described in paragraph (1) for an award under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, consider the results of the summative evaluation under subsection (i)(2) of*

1 *the laboratory established with the eligible appli-*
2 *cant's award described in paragraph (1).";*

3 *(5) by striking subsection (l);*

4 *(6) by redesignating subsections (m), (n), and (o)*
5 *as subsections (l), (m), and (n), respectively;*

6 *(7) in subsection (l), as so redesignated, by in-*
7 *serting "and local" after "achieve State";*

8 *(8) by amending subsection (m), as so redesign-*
9 *ated, to read as follows:*

10 *"(m) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each regional educational*
11 *laboratory established under this section shall submit to the*
12 *Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commissioner an an-*
13 *nual report containing such information as the Commis-*
14 *sioner may require, but which shall include, at a minimum,*
15 *the following:*

16 *"(1) A summary of the laboratory's activities*
17 *and products developed during the previous year.*

18 *"(2) A listing of the State educational agencies,*
19 *local educational agencies, and schools the laboratory*
20 *assisted during the previous year.*

21 *"(3) Using the measurable performance indica-*
22 *tors established under subsection (e)(5), a description*
23 *of how well the laboratory is meeting educational*
24 *needs of the region served by the laboratory.*

1 “(4) *Any changes to the laboratory’s plan under*
 2 *subsection (d)(2) to improve its activities in the re-*
 3 *maining years of the grant, contract, or cooperative*
 4 *agreement.*”; and

5 (9) *by adding at the end the following new sub-*
 6 *section:*

7 “(o) *APPROPRIATIONS RESERVATION.—Of the*
 8 *amounts appropriated under section 194(a), the Evaluation*
 9 *and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall reserve 16.13*
 10 *percent of such funds to carry out this section, of which*
 11 *the Commissioner shall use not less than 25 percent to serve*
 12 *rural areas (including schools funded by the Bureau which*
 13 *are located in rural areas).*”.

14 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents*
 15 *in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public Law*
 16 *107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking the item*
 17 *relating to section 174 and inserting the following:*

“Sec. 174. *Regional educational laboratories for research, development, dissemination, and evaluation.*”.

18 **PART E—NATIONAL CENTER FOR SPECIAL**
 19 **EDUCATION RESEARCH**

20 **SEC. 175. ESTABLISHMENT.**

21 *Section 175(b) (20 U.S.C. 9567(b)) is amended—*

22 (1) *in paragraph (1), by striking “and children”*
 23 *and inserting “children, and youth”;*

1 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (3) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
4 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

5 (4) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(4) to promote quality and integrity through
7 the use of accepted practices of scientific inquiry to
8 obtain knowledge and understanding of the validity of
9 education theories, practices, or conditions with re-
10 spect to special education research and evaluation de-
11 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (3); and

12 “(5) to promote scientifically valid research find-
13 ings in special education that may provide the basis
14 for improving academic instruction and lifelong
15 learning.”.

16 **SEC. 176. COMMISSIONER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RE-**
17 **SEARCH.**

18 Section 176 (20 U.S.C. 9567a) is amended by insert-
19 ing “and youth” after “children”.

20 **SEC. 177. DUTIES.**

21 Section 177 (20 U.S.C. 9567b) is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “and
24 youth” after “children”;

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “scientific-
2 ically based educational practices” and inserting
3 “educational practices, including the use of tech-
4 nology based on scientifically valid research,”;

5 (C) in paragraph (4), by striking “based”
6 and inserting “valid”;

7 (D) in paragraph (10), by inserting before
8 the semicolon the following: “, including how sec-
9 ondary school credentials are related to postsec-
10 ondary and employment outcomes”;

11 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (11)
12 through (15) and paragraphs (16) and (17) as
13 paragraphs (12) through (16), respectively, and
14 paragraphs (18) and (19), respectively;

15 (F) by inserting after paragraph (10), the
16 following:

17 “(11) examine the participation and outcomes of
18 students with disabilities in secondary and postsec-
19 ondary career and technical education programs;”;

20 (G) in paragraph (14), as so redesignated,
21 by inserting “and professional development”
22 after “preparation”;

23 (H) in paragraph (16), as so redesignated,
24 by striking “help parents” and inserting “exam-
25 ine the methods by which parents may”;

1 (I) by inserting after paragraph (16), as so
2 redesignated, the following:

3 “(17) assist the Board in the preparation and
4 dissemination of each evaluation report under section
5 116(d);”;

6 (J) in paragraph (18), as so redesignated,
7 by striking “and” at the end;

8 (K) by amending paragraph (19), as so re-
9 designated, to read as follows:

10 “(19) examine the needs of children with disabil-
11 ities who are English learners, gifted and talented, or
12 who have other unique learning needs; and”;

13 (L) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(20) examine innovations in the field of special
15 education, such as multi-tiered systems of support.”;

16 (2) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph
18 (1)—

19 (i) by inserting “for the activities of
20 the Special Education Research Center”
21 after “research plan”; and

22 (ii) by inserting “and, subject to the
23 approval of the Director, implement such
24 plan” after “Services”;

1 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “de-
2 scribed in section 175(b)” after “Center”;

3 (C) by amending paragraph (2) to read as
4 follows:

5 “(2) is carried out, and, as appropriate, updated
6 and modified, including by using the results of the
7 Special Education Research Center’s most recent eval-
8 uation report under section 116(d);”;

9 (D) by striking paragraph (5);

10 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4),
11 and (6) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (7), respec-
12 tively;

13 (F) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so
14 amended, the following:

15 “(3) provides for research that addresses signifi-
16 cant questions of practice where such research is lack-
17 ing;”;

18 (G) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated, by
19 striking “and types of children with” and insert-
20 ing “, student subgroups, and types of”; and

21 (H) by inserting after paragraph (5), as so
22 redesignated and amended, the following:

23 “(6) describes how the Special Education Re-
24 search Center will use the performance management

1 *system described in section 185 to assess and improve*
2 *the activities of the Center; and”;*

3 *(3) in subsection (d)—*

4 *(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Direc-*
5 *tor” and inserting “Special Education Research*
6 *Commissioner”;*

7 *(B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as*
8 *follows:*

9 *“(3) APPLICATIONS.—*

10 *“(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant*
11 *that wishes to receive a grant, or enter into a*
12 *contract or cooperative agreement, under this*
13 *section shall submit an application to the Spe-*
14 *cial Education Research Commissioner at such*
15 *time, in such manner, and containing such in-*
16 *formation as the Special Education Research*
17 *Commissioner may require.*

18 *“(B) CONTENTS.—An application submitted*
19 *under subparagraph (A) shall describe how the*
20 *eligible applicant will address and demonstrate*
21 *progress on the requirements of the performance*
22 *management system described in section 185,*
23 *with respect to the activities that will be carried*
24 *out under such grant, contract, or cooperative*
25 *agreement.”; and*

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(4) *DURATION.*—Notwithstanding any other
3 provision of law, the grants, contracts, and coopera-
4 tive agreements under this section may be awarded,
5 on a competitive basis, for a period of not more than
6 5 years, and may be renewed at the discretion of the
7 Special Education Research Commissioner for an ad-
8 ditional period of not more than 2 years if the recipi-
9 ent demonstrates progress on the requirements of the
10 performance management system described in section
11 185, with respect to the activities carried out under
12 the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement received
13 under this section.”;

14 (4) by amending subsection (e) to read as fol-
15 lows:

16 “(e) *DISSEMINATION.*—The Special Education Re-
17 search Center shall synthesize and, consistent with section
18 114(j), widely disseminate and promote utilization of the
19 findings and results of special education research conducted
20 or supported by the Special Education Research Center.”;
21 and

22 (5) in subsection (f), by striking “part such sums
23 as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2005
24 through 2010.” and inserting “part—

25 “(1) for fiscal year 2015, \$54,000,000;

1 “(2) for fiscal year 2016, \$54,108,000;
2 “(3) for fiscal year 2017, \$55,298,376;
3 “(4) for fiscal year 2018, \$56,625,537;
4 “(5) for fiscal year 2019, \$58,154,426; and
5 “(6) for fiscal year 2020, \$65,645,169.”.

6 **PART F—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

7 **SEC. 182. PROHIBITIONS.**

8 *Section 182 (20 U.S.C. 9572) is amended—*

9 *(1) in subsection (b)—*

10 *(A) by striking “or control” and inserting*
11 *“control, or coerce”; and*

12 *(B) by inserting “specific academic stand-*
13 *ards or assessments,” after “the curriculum,”*

14 *(3) in subsection (c)—*

15 *(A) by inserting “coerce,” after “approve,”*
16 *and*

17 *(B) by striking “an elementary school or*
18 *secondary school” and inserting “early edu-*
19 *cation, or in an elementary school, secondary*
20 *school, or institution of higher education”.*

21 **SEC. 183. CONFIDENTIALITY.**

22 *Section 183 (20 U.S.C. 9573) is amended—*

23 *(1) in subsection (b)—*

1 (A) by striking “their families, and infor-
 2 mation with respect to individual schools,” and
 3 inserting “and their families”; and

4 (B) by inserting before the period at the end
 5 the following: “, and that any disclosed informa-
 6 tion with respect to individual schools not reveal
 7 such individually identifiable information”;

8 (2) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “, includ-
 9 ing voluntary and uncompensated services under sec-
 10 tion 190” after “providing services”; and

11 (3) in subsection (e)(1), in the matter preceding
 12 subparagraph (A), by inserting “and Director” after
 13 “Secretary”.

14 **SEC. 184. AVAILABILITY OF DATA.**

15 Section 184 (20 U.S.C. 9574) is amended by striking
 16 “use of the Internet” and inserting “electronic means, such
 17 as posting to the Institute’s website in an easily accessible
 18 manner”.

19 **SEC. 185. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.**

20 Section 185 (20 U.S.C. 9575) is amended to read as
 21 follows:

22 **“SEC. 185. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.**

23 “The Director shall establish a system for managing
 24 the performance of all activities authorized under this title

1 *to promote continuous improvement of the activities and*
 2 *to ensure the effective use of Federal funds by—*

3 “(1) *developing and using measurable perform-*
 4 *ance indicators, including timelines, to evaluate and*
 5 *improve the effectiveness of the activities;*

6 “(2) *using the performance indicators described*
 7 *in paragraph (1) to inform funding decisions, includ-*
 8 *ing the awarding and continuation of all grants, con-*
 9 *tracts, and cooperative agreements under this title;*

10 “(3) *establishing and improving formal feedback*
 11 *mechanisms to—*

12 “(A) *anticipate and meet stakeholder needs;*
 13 *and*

14 “(B) *incorporate, on an ongoing basis, the*
 15 *feedback of such stakeholders into the activities*
 16 *authorized under this title; and*

17 “(4) *promoting the wide dissemination and uti-*
 18 *lization, consistent with section 114(j), of all informa-*
 19 *tion, products, and publications of the Institute.”.*

20 **SEC. 186. AUTHORITY TO PUBLISH.**

21 *Section 186(b) (20 U.S.C. 9576) is amended by strik-*
 22 *ing “any information to be published under this section be-*
 23 *fore publication” and inserting “publications under this*
 24 *section before the public release of such publications”.*

1 **SEC. 187. REPEALS.**

2 (a) *REPEALS.*—Sections 187 (20 U.S.C. 9577) and
3 193 (20 U.S.C. 9583) are repealed.

4 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—The table of contents
5 in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public Law
6 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking the items
7 relating to sections 187 and 193.

8 **SEC. 188. FELLOWSHIPS.**

9 Section 189 (20 U.S.C. 9579) is amended—

10 (1) by inserting “and the mission of each Na-
11 tional Education Center authorized under this title”
12 after “related to education”; and

13 (2) by striking “historically Black colleges and
14 universities” and inserting “minority-serving institu-
15 tions”.

16 **SEC. 189. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 Section 194 (20 U.S.C. 9584) is amended—

18 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—There are authorized to be appro-
21 priated to administer and carry out this title (except part
22 E)—

23 “(1) for fiscal year 2015, \$337,343,000;

24 “(2) for fiscal year 2016, \$338,017,686;

25 “(3) for fiscal year 2017, \$345,454,075;

26 “(4) for fiscal year 2018, \$353,744,974;

1 “(5) for fiscal year 2019, \$363,296,087; and

2 “(6) for fiscal year 2020, \$368,745,528.”.

3 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
4 following:

5 “(b) *RESERVATIONS.*—Of the amounts appropriated
6 under subsection (a) for each fiscal year—

7 “(1) not less than the amount provided to the
8 National Center for Education Statistics (as such
9 Center was in existence on the day before the date of
10 enactment of the Strengthening Education through
11 Research Act) for fiscal year 2014 shall be provided
12 to the National Center for Education Statistics, as
13 authorized under part C; and

14 “(2) not more than the lesser of 2 percent of such
15 funds or \$2,000,000 shall be made available to carry
16 out section 116 (relating to the National Board for
17 Education Sciences).”.

18 ***TITLE II—EDUCATIONAL*** 19 ***TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE***

20 ***SEC. 201. REFERENCES.***

21 *Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in*
22 *this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of*
23 *an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision,*
24 *the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or*

1 *other provision of the Educational Technical Assistance Act*
 2 *of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).*

3 **SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.**

4 *Section 202 (20 U.S.C. 9601) is amended—*

5 *(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-*
 6 *graph (3); and*

7 *(2) by inserting after paragraph (1), the fol-*
 8 *lowing:*

9 *“(2) SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘school leader’*
 10 *has the meaning given the term in section 102.”.*

11 **SEC. 203. COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS.**

12 *Section 203 (20 U.S.C. 9602)—*

13 *(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-*
 14 *lows:*

15 *“(a) AUTHORIZATION.—*

16 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), the*
 17 *Secretary is authorized to award not more than 17*
 18 *grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to eligible*
 19 *applicants to establish comprehensive centers.*

20 *“(2) MISSION.—The mission of the comprehen-*
 21 *sive centers is to provide State educational agencies*
 22 *and local educational agencies technical assistance,*
 23 *analysis, and training to build their capacity in im-*
 24 *plementing the requirements of the Elementary and*
 25 *Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et*

1 *seq.) and other Federal education laws, and research-*
2 *based practices.*

3 “(3) *REGIONS.—In awarding grants, contracts,*
4 *or cooperative agreements under paragraph (1), the*
5 *Secretary—*

6 “(A) *shall establish at least one comprehen-*
7 *sive center for each of the 10 geographic regions*
8 *served by the regional educational laboratories*
9 *established under section 941(h) of the Edu-*
10 *cational Research, Development, Dissemination,*
11 *and Improvement Act of 1994 (as such provision*
12 *existed on the day before the date of enactment*
13 *of this Act); and*

14 “(B) *may establish additional comprehen-*
15 *sive centers—*

16 “(i) *for one or more of the regions de-*
17 *scribed in subparagraph (A); or*

18 “(ii) *to serve the Nation as a whole by*
19 *providing technical assistance on a par-*
20 *ticular content area of importance to the*
21 *Nation, as determined by the Secretary with*
22 *the advice of the regional advisory commit-*
23 *tees established under section 206(a).*

24 “(4) *NATION.—In the case of a comprehensive*
25 *center established to serve the Nation as described in*

1 *paragraph (3)(B)(ii), the Nation shall be considered*
 2 *to be a region served by such Center.*

3 “(5) *AWARD PERIOD.*—*A grant, contract, or co-*
 4 *operative agreement under this section may be award-*
 5 *ed, on a competitive basis, for a period of not more*
 6 *than 5 years.*

7 “(6) *RESPONSIVENESS.*—*The Secretary shall en-*
 8 *sure that each comprehensive center established under*
 9 *this section has the ability to respond in a timely*
 10 *fashion to the needs of State educational agencies and*
 11 *local educational agencies, including through using*
 12 *the results of the center’s interim evaluation under*
 13 *section 204(c), to improve and modify the activities*
 14 *of the center before the end of the award period.”;*

15 (2) *in subsection (b)—*

16 (A) *in paragraph (1)—*

17 (i) *by inserting “, contracts, or cooper-*
 18 *ative agreements” after “Grants”;*

19 (ii) *by striking “research organiza-*
 20 *tions, institutions, agencies, institutions of*
 21 *higher education,” and inserting “public or*
 22 *private, nonprofit or for-profit research or-*
 23 *ganizations, other organizations, or institu-*
 24 *tions of higher education,”;*

25 (iii) *by striking “, or individuals,”;*

1 (iv) by striking “subsection (f)” and
 2 inserting “subsection (e)”; and

3 (v) by striking “, including regional”
 4 and all that follows through “107–110))”;
 5 and

6 (B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and
 7 inserting the following:

8 “(2) OUTREACH.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In conducting competi-
 10 tions for grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-
 11 ments under this section, the Secretary shall—

12 “(i) by making widely available infor-
 13 mation and technical assistance relating to
 14 the competition, actively encourage eligible
 15 applicants to compete for such awards; and

16 “(ii) seek input from chief executive of-
 17 ficers of States, chief State school officers,
 18 educators, parents, superintendents, and
 19 other individuals with knowledge of the
 20 needs of the regions to be served by the
 21 awards, regarding—

22 “(I) the needs in the regions for
 23 technical assistance authorized under
 24 this title; and

1 “(II) how such needs may be ad-
2 dressed most effectively.

3 “(B) *REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES.*—
4 *The individuals described in subparagraph*
5 *(A)(ii) may include members of the regional ad-*
6 *visory committees established under section*
7 *206(a).*

8 “(3) *PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.*—*Before*
9 *awarding a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement*
10 *under this section, the Secretary shall establish meas-*
11 *urable performance indicators to be used to assess the*
12 *ongoing progress and performance of the comprehen-*
13 *sive centers to be established under this title that ad-*
14 *dress—*

15 “(A) *paragraphs (1) through (3) of the per-*
16 *formance management system described in sec-*
17 *tion 185; and*

18 “(B) *the relevant results of the regional as-*
19 *sessments under section 206(e).*

20 “(4) *REQUIRED CONSIDERATION.*—*In deter-*
21 *mining whether to award a grant, contract, or coop-*
22 *erative agreement under this section to an eligible ap-*
23 *plicant that previously established a comprehensive*
24 *center under this section, the Secretary shall consider*

1 *the results of such center’s summative evaluation*
2 *under section 204(b).*

3 “(5) *CONTINUATION OF AWARDS.*—

4 “(A) *CONTINUATION OF AWARDS.*—*The Sec-*
5 *retary shall continue awards made to each eligi-*
6 *ble applicant for the support of comprehensive*
7 *centers established under this section prior to the*
8 *date of enactment of the Strengthening Edu-*
9 *cation through Research Act, as such awards*
10 *were in effect on the day before the date of enact-*
11 *ment of the Strengthening Education through*
12 *Research Act, for the duration of those awards,*
13 *in accordance with the terms and agreements of*
14 *such awards.*

15 “(B) *RECOMPETITION.*—*Not later than the*
16 *end of the period of the awards described in sub-*
17 *paragraph (A), the Secretary shall—*

18 “(i) *hold a competition to make grants,*
19 *contracts, or cooperative agreements under*
20 *this section to eligible applicants, which*
21 *may include eligible applicants that held*
22 *awards described in subparagraph (A); and*

23 “(ii) *in determining whether to select*
24 *an eligible applicant that held an award de-*
25 *scribed in subparagraph (A) for an award*

1 *under clause (i) of this subparagraph, con-*
2 *sider the results of the summative evalua-*
3 *tion under section 204(b) of the center es-*
4 *tablished with the eligible applicant's award*
5 *described in subparagraph (A).*

6 “(6) *ELIGIBLE APPLICANT DEFINED.*—*For pur-*
7 *poses of this section, the term ‘eligible applicant’*
8 *means an entity described in paragraph (1).”;*

9 (3) *by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-*
10 *lows:*

11 “(c) *APPLICATIONS.*—

12 “(1) *SUBMISSION.*—

13 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each eligible applicant*
14 *seeking a grant, contract, or cooperative agree-*
15 *ment under this section shall submit an applica-*
16 *tion at such time, in such manner, and con-*
17 *taining such additional information as the Sec-*
18 *retary may reasonably require.*

19 “(B) *INPUT.*—*To ensure that applications*
20 *submitted under this paragraph are reflective of*
21 *the needs of the regions to be served, each eligible*
22 *applicant submitting such an application shall*
23 *seek input from State educational agencies and*
24 *local educational agencies in the region that the*
25 *award will serve, and other individuals with*

1 *knowledge of the region’s needs. Such individuals*
2 *may include members of the regional advisory*
3 *committee for the region under section 206(a).*

4 “(2) *PLAN.*—

5 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each application sub-*
6 *mitted under paragraph (1) shall contain a plan*
7 *for the comprehensive center to be established*
8 *under this section, which shall be updated, modi-*
9 *fied, and improved, as appropriate, on an ongo-*
10 *ing basis, including by using the results of the*
11 *center’s interim evaluation under section 204(c).*

12 “(B) *CONTENTS.*—*A plan described in sub-*
13 *paragraph (A) shall address—*

14 “(i) *the priorities for technical assist-*
15 *ance established under section 207;*

16 “(ii) *the needs of State educational*
17 *agencies and local educational agencies, on*
18 *an ongoing basis, using available State and*
19 *local data, including the relevant results of*
20 *the regional assessments under section*
21 *206(e); and*

22 “(iii) *if available, demonstrated sup-*
23 *port from State educational agencies and*
24 *local educational agencies, such as letters of*

1 *support or signed memoranda of under-*
 2 *standing.*

3 “(3) *NON-FEDERAL SUPPORT.*—*In conducting a*
 4 *competition for grants, contracts, or cooperative*
 5 *agreements under subsection (a), the Secretary shall*
 6 *give priority to eligible applicants that will provide*
 7 *a portion of non-Federal funds to maximize support*
 8 *for activities of the comprehensive centers to be estab-*
 9 *lished under this section.”;*

10 (4) *in subsection (d), by inserting “the number*
 11 *of low-performing schools in the region,” after “eco-*
 12 *nomically disadvantaged students,”;*

13 (5) *by striking subsection (e) and redesignating*
 14 *subsections (f), (g), and (h) as subsections (e), (f), and*
 15 *(g), respectively;*

16 (6) *in subsection (e), as so redesignated—*

17 (A) *in paragraph (1)—*

18 (i) *by striking “support dissemination*
 19 *and technical assistance activities by” and*
 20 *inserting “support State educational agen-*
 21 *cies and local educational agencies, includ-*
 22 *ing by”;*

23 (ii) *in subparagraph (A)(i), by insert-*
 24 *ing “and other Federal education laws” be-*
 25 *fore the semicolon;*

1 (iii) in subparagraph (A)(ii)—

2 (I) in the matter preceding sub-
3 clause (I), by striking “and assessment
4 tools” and inserting “, assessment
5 tools, and other educational strategies”;

6 (II) in subclause (I), by striking
7 “mathematics, science,” and inserting
8 “mathematics and science, which may
9 include computer science or engineer-
10 ing,”; and

11 (III) in subclause (III), by insert-
12 ing “, including innovative tools and
13 methods” before the semicolon;

14 (iv) by striking subparagraph (A)(iii)
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(iii) the replication and adaptation of
17 exemplary practices and innovative methods
18 that have an evidence base of effectiveness;
19 and”;

20 (v) in subparagraph (B)—

21 (I) by inserting “, consistent with
22 section 114(j),” after “disseminating”;
23 and

1 (II) by striking “(as described”
 2 and all that follows through “is lo-
 3 cated”; and

4 (vi) by amending subparagraph (C) to
 5 read as follows:

6 “(C) ensuring activities carried out under
 7 this section are relevant and responsive to the
 8 needs of the region being served, including by
 9 using the relevant results of the regional assess-
 10 ments under section 206(e).”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (2)—

12 (i) by inserting “, on an ongoing
 13 basis,” after “this section shall”; and

14 (ii) by inserting “or other regional
 15 educational laboratories or comprehensive
 16 centers, as appropriate,” after “center is lo-
 17 cated,”; and

18 (7) by amending subsections (f) and (g), as each
 19 so redesignated, to read as follows:

20 “(f) COMPREHENSIVE CENTER ADVISORY BOARD.—A
 21 comprehensive center established under this section may es-
 22 tablish an advisory board to support and monitor the prior-
 23 ities and activities of such center. An advisory board estab-
 24 lished under this subsection shall coordinate and align its
 25 work with the work of the regional advisory committee of

1 *the region served by such center established under section*
 2 *206.*

3 “(g) *REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.*—*Each comprehen-*
 4 *sive center established under this section shall submit to the*
 5 *Secretary an annual report, at such time, in such manner,*
 6 *and containing such information as the Secretary may re-*
 7 *quire, which shall include the following:*

8 “(1) *A summary of the center’s activities and*
 9 *products developed during the previous year.*

10 “(2) *A listing of the State educational agencies,*
 11 *local educational agencies, and schools the center as-*
 12 *sisted during the previous year.*

13 “(3) *Using the measurable performance indica-*
 14 *tors established under subsection (b)(3), a description*
 15 *of how well the center is meeting educational needs of*
 16 *the region served by the center.*

17 “(4) *Any changes to the center’s plan under sub-*
 18 *section (c)(2) to improve its activities in the remain-*
 19 *ing years of the grant, contract, or cooperative agree-*
 20 *ment.”.*

21 **SEC. 204. EVALUATIONS.**

22 *Section 204 (20 U.S.C. 9603) is amended to read as*
 23 *follows:*

24 **“SEC. 204. EVALUATIONS.**

25 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall—*

1 “(1) provide for ongoing summative and interim
2 evaluations described in subsections (b) and (c), re-
3 spectively, of each of the comprehensive centers estab-
4 lished under this title in carrying out the full range
5 of duties of the center under this title; and

6 “(2) transmit the results of such evaluations,
7 through appropriate means, to the appropriate con-
8 gressional committees, the Director of the Institute of
9 Education Sciences, and the public.

10 “(b) *SUMMATIVE EVALUATION.*—The Secretary shall
11 ensure each comprehensive center established under this title
12 is evaluated by an independent entity at the end of the pe-
13 riod of the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement that
14 established such center, which shall—

15 “(1) be completed in a timely fashion;

16 “(2) assess how well the center is meeting the
17 measurable performance indicators established under
18 section 203(b)(3); and

19 “(3) consider the extent to which the center en-
20 sures that the technical assistance of such center is
21 relevant and useful to the work of State and local
22 practitioners and policymakers.

23 “(c) *INTERIM EVALUATION.*—The Secretary shall en-
24 sure that each comprehensive center established under this
25 title is evaluated at the midpoint of the period of the grant,

1 *contract, or cooperative agreement that established such cen-*
 2 *ter, which shall—*

3 *“(1) assess how well such center is meeting the*
 4 *measurable performance indicators established under*
 5 *section 203(b)(3); and*

6 *“(2) be used to improve the effectiveness of such*
 7 *center in carrying out its plan under section*
 8 *203(c)(2).”.*

9 **SEC. 205. EXISTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS.**

10 *(a) REPEAL.—Section 205 (20 U.S.C. 9604) is re-*
 11 *pealed.*

12 *(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents*
 13 *in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public Law*
 14 *107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking the item*
 15 *relating to section 205.*

16 **SEC. 206. REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

17 *Section 206 (20 U.S.C. 9605) is amended—*

18 *(1) in subsection (a)—*

19 *(A) by striking “Beginning in 2004, the”*
 20 *and inserting “The”; and*

21 *(B) by striking “of the Education Sciences*
 22 *Reform Act of 2002”;*

23 *(2) by striking subsection (c) and redesignating*
 24 *subsections (b) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), re-*
 25 *spectively;*

1 (3) by inserting the following after subsection
2 (a):

3 “(b) *MISSION.*—*The mission of each regional advisory*
4 *committee established under subsection (a) shall be to—*

5 “(1) *support, strengthen, and, as appropriate,*
6 *align the work of the regional educational laboratories*
7 *established under section 174 and the comprehensive*
8 *centers established under this title; and*

9 “(2) *ensure that the regional educational labora-*
10 *tories and comprehensive centers are meeting the*
11 *needs of their regions.*

12 “(c) *DUTIES.*—*Each advisory committee established*
13 *under subsection (a) shall—*

14 “(1) *conduct, on at least a biennial basis, a*
15 *needs assessments of the region served by the com-*
16 *mittee, as described in subsection (e);*

17 “(2) *to ensure the activities of the regional edu-*
18 *cational laboratory and comprehensive centers serving*
19 *the region of the committee are responsive to the needs*
20 *of such region, provide ongoing input to the labora-*
21 *tory and centers on planning and carrying out their*
22 *activities under section 174 and this title, respec-*
23 *tively;*

1 “(3) maintain a high standard of quality in the
2 performance of the activities of the laboratory and
3 centers, respectively; and

4 “(4) support the continuous improvement of the
5 laboratory and centers in the region served by the
6 committee, especially in meeting the measurable per-
7 formance indicators established under sections
8 174(e)(4) and 203(b)(3), respectively.”;

9 (4) by amending subsection (d), as so redesign-
10 nated, to read as follows:

11 “(d) MEMBERSHIP.—

12 “(1) COMPOSITION.—The membership of each re-
13 gional advisory committee shall—

14 “(A) not exceed 25 members;

15 “(B) include the chief State school officer, or
16 such officer’s designee, or other State official, of
17 States within the region of the committee who
18 have primary responsibility under State law for
19 elementary and secondary education in the
20 State;

21 “(C) include representatives of local edu-
22 cational agencies, including rural and urban
23 local educational agencies, that represent the geo-
24 graphic diversity of the region; and

25 “(D) include researchers.

1 “(2) *ELIGIBILITY.*—*The membership of each re-*
2 *gional advisory committee may include the following:*

3 “(A) *Representatives of institutions of high-*
4 *er education.*

5 “(B) *Parents.*

6 “(C) *Practicing educators, including class-*
7 *room teachers, school leaders, administrators,*
8 *school board members, and other local school offi-*
9 *cials.*

10 “(D) *Representatives of business.*

11 “(E) *Policymakers.*

12 “(F) *Representatives from the regional edu-*
13 *cational laboratory and comprehensive centers in*
14 *the region.*

15 “(3) *RECOMMENDATIONS.*—*In choosing individ-*
16 *uals for membership on a regional advisory com-*
17 *mittee, the Secretary shall consult with, and solicit*
18 *recommendations from, the chief executive officers of*
19 *States, chief State school officers, local educational*
20 *agencies, and other education stakeholders within the*
21 *applicable region.*

22 “(4) *SPECIAL RULE.*—*The total number of mem-*
23 *bers on each committee who are selected under sub-*
24 *paragraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (1), in the ag-*

gregate, shall exceed the total number of members who
are selected under paragraph (2), collectively.”;

(5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “, at least on a biennial basis,” after “assess”; and

(ii) by inserting “, strengths, and weaknesses” after “educational needs”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “State school officers,”
and all that follows through “within the region)” and inserting “State school officers, local educational agencies, representatives of public charter schools, educators, parents, and others within the region”;

(ii) by striking “of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and section 203 of this title” and inserting “and section 203”; and

(iii) by striking “and” at the end;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

1 “(3) use available State and local data, con-
 2 sistent with privacy protections under section 183, to
 3 determine regional educational needs; and”.

4 **SEC. 207. PRIORITIES.**

5 Section 207 (20 U.S.C. 9606) is amended—

6 (1) by inserting “Director and” before “Sec-
 7 retary shall establish”;

8 (2) by striking “of the Education Sciences Re-
 9 form Act of 2002”;

10 (3) by striking “of this title”;

11 (4) by striking “to address, taking onto account”
 12 and inserting “, respectively, using the results of”;
 13 and

14 (5) by striking “relevant regional” and all that
 15 follows through “Secretary deems appropriate” and
 16 inserting “relevant regional and national surveys of
 17 educational needs”.

18 **SEC. 208. GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATEWIDE LONGITU-**
 19 **DINAL DATA SYSTEMS.**

20 Section 208 (20 U.S.C. 9607) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a)—

22 (A) by inserting before the period at the end
 23 the following: “, the Higher Education Act of
 24 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), and the Individ-

1 uals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
2 1400 *et seq.*)”; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following:
4 “State educational agencies receiving a grant
5 under this section may provide subgrants to local
6 educational agencies to improve the capacity of
7 local educational agencies to carry out the activi-
8 ties authorized under this section.”;

9 (2) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), and (e)
10 as subsections (d), (e), and (g), respectively;

11 (3) by inserting after subsection (b), the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(c) *PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT*.—Before awarding
14 a grant under this section, the Secretary shall establish
15 measurable performance indicators—

16 “(1) to be used to assess the ongoing progress and
17 performance of State educational agencies receiving a
18 grant under this section; and

19 “(2) that address paragraphs (1) through (3) of
20 the performance management system described in sec-
21 tion 185.”;

22 (4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

23 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “, pro-
24 motes linkages across States,”;

25 (B) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
 2 graph (A), by inserting “supports school
 3 improvement and” after “data that”;

4 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 5 “and other reporting requirements and close
 6 achievement gaps; and” and inserting “,
 7 other reporting requirements, close achieve-
 8 ment gaps, and improve teaching.”;

9 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 10 “and close achievement gaps” and by insert-
 11 ing “, close achievement gaps, and improve
 12 teaching”; and

13 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph
 14 (B) the following:

15 “(C) to align statewide longitudinal data
 16 systems from early education through postsec-
 17 ondary education (including pre-service prepara-
 18 tion programs), and the workforce, consistent
 19 with privacy protections under section 183;”;
 20 and

21 (C) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting
 22 the following:

23 “(3) ensures the protection of student privacy,
 24 and includes a review of how State educational agen-
 25 cies, local educational agencies, and others that will

1 *have access to the statewide data systems under this*
2 *section will adhere to Federal privacy laws and pro-*
3 *tections, consistent with section 183, in the building,*
4 *maintenance, and use of such data systems;*

5 *“(4) ensures State educational agencies receiving*
6 *a grant under this section support professional devel-*
7 *opment that builds the capacity of teachers and school*
8 *leaders to use data effectively; and*

9 *“(5) gives priority to State educational agencies*
10 *that leverage the use of longitudinal data systems to*
11 *improve student achievement and growth, including*
12 *such State educational agencies that—*

13 *“(A) meet the voluntary standards and*
14 *guidelines described in section 153(a)(5);*

15 *“(B) define the roles of State educational*
16 *agencies, local educational agencies, and others*
17 *in providing timely access to data under the*
18 *statewide data systems, consistent with privacy*
19 *protections in section 183; and*

20 *“(C) demonstrate the capacity to share*
21 *teacher and school leader performance data, in-*
22 *cluding student achievement and growth data,*
23 *with local educational agencies and teacher and*
24 *school leader preparation programs.”;*

1 (5) by inserting after subsection (e), as so rededesignated, the following:

3 “(f) *RENEWAL OF AWARDS.*—*The Secretary may*
 4 *renew a grant awarded to a State educational agency under*
 5 *this section for a period not to exceed 3 years, if the State*
 6 *educational agency has demonstrated progress on the meas-*
 7 *urable performance indicators established under subsection*
 8 *(c).”; and*

9 (6) by amending subsection (g), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

11 “(g) *REPORTS.*—

12 “(1) *FIRST REPORT.*—*Not later than 1 year after*
 13 *the date of enactment of the Strengthening Education*
 14 *through Research Act, the Secretary shall prepare and*
 15 *make publicly available a report on the implementa-*
 16 *tion and effectiveness of the activities carried out by*
 17 *State educational agencies receiving a grant under*
 18 *this section, including—*

19 “(A) *information on progress in the devel-*
 20 *opment and use of statewide longitudinal data*
 21 *systems described in this section;*

22 “(B) *information on best practices and*
 23 *areas for improvement in such development and*
 24 *use; and*

1 “(C) how the State educational agencies are
 2 adhering to Federal privacy laws and protec-
 3 tions in the building, maintenance, and use of
 4 such data systems.

5 “(2) *SUCCEEDING REPORTS.*—Every succeeding
 6 3 years after the report is made publicly available
 7 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prepare and
 8 make publicly available a report on the implementa-
 9 tion and effectiveness of the activities carried out by
 10 State educational agencies receiving a grant under
 11 this section, including—

12 “(A) information on the requirements of
 13 subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1);
 14 and

15 “(B) the progress, in the aggregate, State
 16 educational agencies are making on the measur-
 17 able performance indicators established under
 18 subsection (c).”.

19 **SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 Section 209 (20 U.S.C. 9608) is amended to read as
 21 follows:

22 **“SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23 *“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out*
 24 *this title—*

25 “(1) for fiscal year 2015, \$82,984,000;

1 “(2) for fiscal year 2016, \$83,149,968;
 2 “(3) for fiscal year 2017, \$84,979,268;
 3 “(4) for fiscal year 2018, \$87,018,769;
 4 “(5) for fiscal year 2019, \$89,368,277; and
 5 “(6) for fiscal year 2020, \$90,708,801.”.

6 **TITLE III—NATIONAL ASSESS-**
 7 **MENT OF EDUCATIONAL**
 8 **PROGRESS**

9 **SEC. 301. REFERENCES.**

10 *Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in*
 11 *this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of*
 12 *an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision,*
 13 *the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or*
 14 *other provision of the National Assessment of Educational*
 15 *Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9621 et seq.).*

16 **SEC. 302. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD.**

17 *Section 302 (20 U.S.C. 9621) is amended—*

18 *(1) in subsection (a), by striking “shall formu-*
 19 *late policy guidelines” and inserting “shall oversee*
 20 *and set policies, in a manner consistent with sub-*
 21 *section (e) and accepted professional standards,”;*

22 *(2) in subsection (b)(1)(L)—*

23 *(A) by striking “principals” and inserting*
 24 *“leaders”; and*

1 *(B) by striking “principal” both places it*
2 *appears and inserting “leader”;*
3 *(3) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (4);*
4 *(4) in subsection (d)—*

5 *(A) in paragraph (1)—*

6 *(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting*
7 *“the Assessment Board after consultation*
8 *with” before “organizations”; and*

9 *(ii) in subparagraph (B)—*

10 *(I) by striking “Each organiza-*
11 *tion submitting nominations to the*
12 *Secretary with” and inserting “With”;*
13 *and*

14 *(II) by inserting “, the Assessment*
15 *Board” after “particular vacancy”;*
16 *and*

17 *(B) in paragraph (2)—*

18 *(i) by striking “that each organization*
19 *described in paragraph (1)(A) submit addi-*
20 *tional nominations” and inserting “addi-*
21 *tional nominations from the Assessment*
22 *Board or each organization described in*
23 *paragraph (1)(A)”;* and

24 *(ii) by striking “such organization”*
25 *and inserting “the Assessment Board”; and*

1 (5) *in subsection (e)(1)—*

2 *(A) in subparagraph (A)—*

3 *(i) by inserting “in consultation with*
4 *the Commissioner for Education Statistics,”*
5 *before “select”;*

6 *(ii) by inserting “and grades or ages”*
7 *before “to be”; and*

8 *(iii) by inserting “, and determine the*
9 *year in which such assessments will be con-*
10 *ducted” after “assessed”;*

11 *(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting*
12 *“school leaders,” after “teachers,”;*

13 *(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking “de-*
14 *sign” and inserting “provide input on”;*

15 *(D) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as*
16 *subparagraph (K);*

17 *(E) by inserting after subparagraph (I), the*
18 *following:*

19 *“(J) provide input to the Director on an-*
20 *nual budget requests for the National Assessment*
21 *of Educational Progress; and”;*

22 *(F) in subparagraph (K), as so redesign-*
23 *ated—*

24 *(i) by striking “plan and execute the*
25 *initial public release of”; and*

1 (ii) by inserting “release the initial”
 2 before “National”; and
 3 (G) in the matter following subparagraph
 4 (K), as so amended and redesignated, by striking
 5 “subparagraph (J)” and inserting “subpara-
 6 graph (K)”.

7 **SEC. 303. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL**
 8 **PROGRESS.**

9 Section 303 (20 U.S.C. 9622) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “with the ad-
 11 vice of the Assessment Board established under section
 12 302” and inserting “in a manner consistent with ac-
 13 cepted professional standards and the policies set
 14 forth by the Assessment Board under section 302(a)”;

15 (2) in subsection (b)(2)—

16 (A) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “and
 17 consistent with section 302(e)(1)(A)” after “re-
 18 sources allow”;

19 (B) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
 20 paragraph (G);

21 (C) by striking the period and inserting “;
 22 and” at the end of subparagraph (H); and

23 (D) by adding at the end the following new
 24 subparagraph:

1 “(I) determine, after taking into account
 2 section 302(e)(1)(I), the content of initial and
 3 subsequent reports of all assessments authorized
 4 under this section and ensure that such reports
 5 are valid and reliable.”;

6 (3) in subsection (c)(2)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “of
 8 Education” after “Secretary”; and

9 (B) in subparagraph (D)—

10 (i) by striking “Chairman of the
 11 House” before “Committee on Education”;

12 (ii) by inserting “of the House of Rep-
 13 resentatives” after “Workforce”;

14 (iii) by striking “Chairman of the Sen-
 15 ate” before “Committee on Health”; and

16 (iv) by inserting “of the Senate” after
 17 “Pensions”;

18 (4) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting before the
 19 period, the following: “, except as required under sec-
 20 tion 1112(b)(1)(F) of the Elementary and Secondary
 21 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6312(b)(1)(F))”;

22 (5) in subsection (e)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or age”;

24 and

25 (B) in paragraph (2)—

1 *(i) in subparagraph (A)—*

2 *(I) by striking “shall” and all*
3 *that follows through “be” and insert*
4 *“shall be”;*

5 *(II) by redesignating subclauses*
6 *(I) and (II) as clauses (i) and (ii), re-*
7 *spectively (and by moving the margins*
8 *2 ems to the left); and*

9 *(III) in clause (ii) (as so redesign-*
10 *ated), by striking “, or the age of the*
11 *students, as the case may be”;*

12 *(ii) in subparagraph (B)—*

13 *(I) by striking “After the deter-*
14 *minations described in subparagraph*
15 *(A), devising” and inserting “The As-*
16 *essment Board shall, in making the*
17 *determination described in subpara-*
18 *graph (A), use”;* and

19 *(II) by inserting after “approach”*
20 *the following: “, providing for the ac-*
21 *tive participation of teachers, school*
22 *leaders, curriculum specialists, local*
23 *school administrators, parents, and*
24 *concerned members of the general pub-*
25 *lic”;* and

1 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting
 2 “Assessment” before “Board”; and
 3 (6) in subsection (g)(2)—
 4 (A) in the heading, by striking “AFFAIRS”
 5 and inserting “EDUCATION”; and
 6 (B) by striking “Affairs” and inserting
 7 “Education”.

8 **SEC. 304. DEFINITIONS.**

9 Section 304 (20 U.S.C. 9623) is amended—
 10 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “(1)” and in-
 11 serting “(1) DIRECTOR.—”;
 12 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “(2)” and in-
 13 serting “(2) STATE.—”; and
 14 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) (as
 15 so amended) as paragraphs (2) and (5), respectively;
 16 (4) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as so re-
 17 designated) the following new paragraph:
 18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The terms ‘elementary
 19 school’, ‘local educational agency’, and ‘secondary
 20 school’ have the meanings given those terms in section
 21 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
 22 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).”; and
 23 (5) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so red-
 24 ignated), the following new paragraphs:

1 “(3) *SCHOOL LEADER*.—The term ‘school leader’
2 *has the meaning given the term in section 102.*

3 “(4) *SECRETARY*.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
4 *the Secretary of Education.*”.

5 **SEC. 305. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 *Section 305(a) (20 U.S.C. 9624(a)) is amended to read*
7 *as follows:*

8 “(a) *IN GENERAL*.—There are authorized to be appro-
9 *priated—*

10 “(1) *for fiscal year 2015—*

11 “(A) *\$8,235,000 to carry out section 302*
12 *(relating to the National Assessment Governing*
13 *Board); and*

14 “(B) *\$132,000,000 to carry out section 303*
15 *(relating to the National Assessment of Edu-*
16 *cational Progress);*

17 “(2) *for fiscal year 2016—*

18 “(A) *\$8,251,470 to carry out section 302*
19 *(relating to the National Assessment Governing*
20 *Board); and*

21 “(B) *\$132,264,000 to carry out section 303*
22 *(relating to the National Assessment of Edu-*
23 *cational Progress);*

24 “(3) *for fiscal year 2017—*

1 “(A) \$8,433,002 to carry out section 302
2 (relating to the National Assessment Governing
3 Board); and

4 “(B) \$135,173,808 to carry out section 303
5 (relating to the National Assessment of Edu-
6 cational Progress);

7 “(4) for fiscal year 2018—

8 “(A) \$8,635,395 to carry out section 302
9 (relating to the National Assessment Governing
10 Board); and

11 “(B) \$138,417,979 to carry out section 303
12 (relating to the National Assessment of Edu-
13 cational Progress);

14 “(5) for fiscal year 2019—

15 “(A) \$8,868,550 to carry out section 302
16 (relating to the National Assessment Governing
17 Board); and

18 “(B) \$142,155,266 to carry out section 303
19 (relating to the National Assessment of Edu-
20 cational Progress); and

21 “(6) for fiscal year 2020—

22 “(A) \$9,001,578 to carry out section 302
23 (relating to the National Assessment Governing
24 Board); and

1 “(B) \$144,287,595 to carry out section 303
 2 (relating to the National Assessment of Edu-
 3 cational Progress).”.

4 ***TITLE IV—EVALUATION PLAN***

5 ***SEC. 401. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.***

6 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Institute of Education Sciences
 7 shall be the primary entity for conducting research on and
 8 evaluations of Federal education programs within the De-
 9 partment of Education to ensure the rigor and independ-
 10 ence of such research and evaluation.

11 (b) *FLEXIBLE AUTHORITY.*—

12 (1) *RESERVATION.*—Notwithstanding any other
 13 provision of law in the Elementary and Secondary
 14 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. et seq.) related to
 15 evaluation, the Secretary of Education, in consulta-
 16 tion with the Director of the Institute of Education
 17 Sciences—

18 (A) may, for purposes of carrying out the
 19 activities described in paragraph (2)(B)—

20 (i) reserve not more than 0.5 percent of
 21 the total amount of funds appropriated for
 22 each program authorized under the Elemen-
 23 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
 24 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), other than part A
 25 of title I of such Act (20 U.S.C. 6311 et

1 *seq.) and section 1501 of such Act (20*
2 *U.S.C. 6491); and*

3 *(ii) reserve, in the manner described in*
4 *subparagraph (B), an amount equal to not*
5 *more than 0.1 percent of the total amount*
6 *of funds appropriated for—*

7 *(I) part A of title I of the Elemen-*
8 *tary and Secondary Education Act of*
9 *1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.); and*

10 *(II) section 1501 of such Act (20*
11 *U.S.C. 6491); and*

12 *(B) in reserving the amount described in*
13 *subparagraph (A)(ii)—*

14 *(i) shall reserve up to the total amount*
15 *of funds appropriated for section 1501 of*
16 *the Elementary and Secondary Education*
17 *Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6491); and*

18 *(ii) may, in a case in which the total*
19 *amount of funds appropriated for such sec-*
20 *tion 1501 (20 U.S.C. 6491) is less than the*
21 *amount described in subparagraph (A)(ii),*
22 *reserve the amount of funds appropriated*
23 *for part A of title I of the Elementary and*
24 *Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20*
25 *U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) that is needed for the*

1 *sum of the total amount of funds appro-*
2 *priated for such section 1501 (20 U.S.C.*
3 *6491) and such amount of funds appro-*
4 *priated for such part A of title I (20 U.S.C.*
5 *6311 et seq.) to equal the amount described*
6 *in subparagraph (A)(ii).*

7 (2) *AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—If funds are re-*
8 *served under paragraph (1)—*

9 *(A) neither the Secretary of Education nor*
10 *the Director of the Institute of Education*
11 *Sciences shall—*

12 *(i) carry out evaluations under section*
13 *1501 of the Elementary and Secondary*
14 *Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6491); or*

15 *(ii) reserve funds for evaluation activi-*
16 *ties under section 3111(c)(1)(C) of such Act*
17 *(20 U.S.C. 6821); and*

18 *(B) the Secretary of Education, in consulta-*
19 *tion with the Director of the Institute of Edu-*
20 *cation Sciences—*

21 *(i) shall use the funds reserved under*
22 *paragraph (1) to carry out high-quality*
23 *evaluations (consistent with the require-*
24 *ments of section 173(a) of the Education*
25 *Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C.*

1 9563(a)), as amended by this Act, and the
2 evaluation plan described in subsection (c)
3 of this section) of programs authorized
4 under the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
5 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.);
6 and

7 (ii) may use the funds reserved under
8 paragraph (1) to—

9 (I) increase the usefulness of the
10 evaluations conducted under clause (i)
11 to promote continuous improvement of
12 programs under the Elementary and
13 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
14 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); or

15 (II) assist grantees of such pro-
16 grams in collecting and analyzing data
17 and other activities related to con-
18 ducting high-quality evaluations under
19 clause (i).

20 (3) *DISSEMINATION.*—The Secretary of Edu-
21 cation or the Director of the Institute of Education
22 Sciences shall disseminate evaluation findings, con-
23 sistent with section 114(j) of the Education Sciences
24 Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9514(j)), as amended

1 *by this Act, of evaluations carried out under para-*
2 *graph (2)(B)(i).*

3 (4) *CONSOLIDATION.—The Secretary of Edu-*
4 *cation, in consultation with the Director of the Insti-*
5 *tute of Education Sciences—*

6 (A) *may consolidate the funds reserved*
7 *under paragraph (1) for purposes of carrying*
8 *out the activities under paragraph (2)(B); and*

9 (B) *shall not be required to evaluate under*
10 *paragraph (2)(B)(i) each program authorized*
11 *under the Elementary and Secondary Education*
12 *Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) each year.*

13 (c) *EVALUATION PLAN.—The Director of the Institute*
14 *of Education Sciences, in consultation with the Secretary*
15 *of Education, shall, on a biennial basis, develop, submit to*
16 *Congress, and make publicly available an evaluation plan,*
17 *that—*

18 (1) *describes the specific activities that will be*
19 *carried out under subsection (b)(2)(B) for the 2-year*
20 *period applicable to the plan, and the timelines of*
21 *such activities; and*

22 (2) *contains the results of the activities carried*
23 *out under subsection (b)(2)(B) for the most recent 2-*
24 *year period.*

1 *(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section*
2 *shall be construed to affect section 173(b) of the Education*
3 *Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9563(b)), as*
4 *amended by this Act.*

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113TH CONGRESS
2^D Session

H. R. 4366

[Report No. 113-424]

A BILL

To strengthen the Federal education research system to make research and evaluations more timely and relevant to State and local needs in order to increase student achievement.

APRIL 29, 2014

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed